



Bridgend poet's new book (See page 4).

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THURSDAY, MAY 24TH, 2012

Jail for Polish man after his drunken street attack in town

THREE men were attacked as they walked home from a night out in Bridgend.

One of them was kicked in the face, had two teeth knocked out and lost consciousness, Cardiff Crown Court heard.

The man responsible, Polish national Krystin Zyglad (23) was sentenced to a year's imprisonment, suspended for two years, ordered to carry out 300 hours unpaid work and to pay £340 prosecution costs.

He pleaded guilty to two charges of assault on Cory Davies and Christopher Bowen, and guilty to one charge of causing actual bodily harm to Myles Worrall.

Said Judge John Curran: "This was a very serious, unprovoked attack in a public street, late at night. You used a weapon - your foot."

Prosecutor David Pinnell said that in the early hours of Sunday, December 18, the three victims were part of a large group coming home through Bridgend. They were near the

Coity Castle pub when for no reason, Zyglad ran up to them and attempted to punch Mr Bowen, who succeeded in avoiding the blow.

But he lost his balance and fell to the ground. The defendant then turned on Mr Davies and punched him to the head.

Mr Davies ran off, but was chased by Zyglad, who punched him a second time.

At this point, said Mr Pinnell, Mr Worrall intervened and when Zyglad adopted a fighting stance, Mr Worrall rugby tackled him to the ground.

But seconds later, Mr Worrall felt a sharp pain to the left side of his face from a kick delivered by Zyglad and for a short period, lost consciousness.

The police arrived on the scene and saw Zyglad running off. They chased him and found him hiding in a garden.

Zyglad told officers he had been drinking at home before going to a club in Bridgend and

"becoming very, very drunk."

He said he could not remember how he got into the fight, did not remember kicking anyone and apologised.

Mr Worrall was taken to the Princess of Wales Hospital and left after waiting three hours.

He lost two front teeth. The court heard that Zyglad came to Wales three years ago and had no previous convictions.

His counsel, Nicholas Gedge said: "He does not really remember what happened that night."

"There is a lot of remorse and shame. Within the last few months, he has not gone out and not taken a drop of alcohol. He is a man scared, respectful and polite."

He said he was well thought of and lived with his partner and son.

"If he went into custody, it would have a dire effect on those two blameless people and he would lose his job."

AJ SICLUNA

Runners are in the pink for charity

PHOTOGRAPH by DEAN THOMAS



ABOVE:
The Bridgend Race for Life, organised to support Cancer Research UK, was a great success last Sunday. (See page 5 for more photographs).

D-Day looming for Tesco in Porthcawl?

SPECULATION announced as the successful bidder, it soon became clear that it had outbid all the rival supermarkets, and BCBC's share of the £7 million paid by the supermarket giant was originally earmarked to pay for the regeneration of the harbour area.

The five borough councillors who represent Porthcawl were asked to attend a briefing, straight after the Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC) meeting yesterday (March 23).

The meeting was taking place as The GEM went to press, but the fact that the councillors were called in has added to the widespread speculation that Tesco may be planning a pull-out.

When Tesco was

announced as the successful bidder, it soon became clear that it had outbid all the rival supermarkets, and BCBC's share of the £7 million paid by the supermarket giant was originally earmarked to pay for the regeneration of the harbour area.

However, recent statements from BCBC have said that this part of the project is still going ahead.

The possibility that Tesco might rein in its seemingly unstoppable expansion programme must have appeared very unlikely when the bidding process took place.

Flat is burgled

POLICE are investigating a burglary at a flat in Victoria Avenue, Porthcawl, between 5pm on Sunday, May 20, and 12.30pm on May 21.

Intruders forced their way through the front door and a computer, worth about £360, was stolen.

Anyone with information is asked to contact Bridgend CID on 101 or Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

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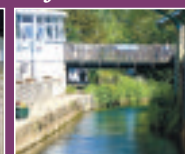
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Foster homes for children needed every 22 minutes

BRIDGEND County Borough Council is urging more residents to become foster carers by supporting the Fostering Network's Foster Care Fortnight, May 14-27, which aims to raise awareness of the estimated 8,750 new foster families needed across the UK.

The council states that in Bridgend alone, the number of children coming into care last year increased by six per cent to 346... And nationwide, the total number of children who are fostered has risen for five years in a row.

Without new foster families, many children are forced to live a long way from family, friends and school or will need to live in residential care.

Robert Tapsfield, chief executive of the Fostering Network, said: "More than 24,000 children who came into care last year were fostered. That means a foster home has to be found every 22 minutes."

"This figure highlights the overwhelming need for more people to come forward to foster. With more foster families, children in care will have a better chance of finding the stability and security they need to go on and achieve their potential."

Colin Turner, BCBC's head of safe-

guarding and family support, said: "Fostering is so important. It can transform lives by giving children and young people stability in loving and caring surroundings."

"We are particularly looking for people who can foster older children, especially teenagers. We are also looking for people to foster siblings so that we don't have to separate them. We urge people to think about fostering and how they can make a real difference."

Clive and Gillian Finch, local authority foster carers, said: "Fostering can be a challenge, but it is also incredibly rewarding, and Bridgend County Borough Council's fostering service provides support and training to carers every step of the way. We've been fostering for 38 years and would recommend it to anyone."

The Bridgend Foster Care team also organises regular 'meet and greet' sessions that provide friendly information on fostering, including a no-obligation chat with social workers and current foster carers. The next session will take place on Wednesday, June 20, from 7pm-9pm at Bryngarw House. For more information about becoming a foster carer, call 01656 642349 or visit www.bridgend.gov.uk/fostering.

Newly renovated building for parent toddler group



The recently renovated Cylch Meithrin building.

A NEW parent toddler group has opened in Pencoed, in the brand new Cylch Meithrin building, the recently renovated Old Clinic in Penprysg Road.

Parents and babies/children aged 0-4 are welcome every Monday during term time, from 1.30pm-3pm, for a cup of tea and a natter, arts and crafts, healthy snacks and song time with their children.

For more information contact Cylch Meithrin Pencoed: 07973 429373.

Bridgend Bridge Club round-up

RECENT results for Bridgend Bridge Club were:

Wednesday May 16 - First, Dave Barwood and Jane Brook; Second, Andrew Scott and Liam Sheridan; Joint third, Kevin Maddox and Mike Best, and Peter Bugden and Geoff Barnes.

Friday May 18 - First, Jenny Vaughan and Irene Thomas; Second, Ann Fox and Steve Burgoyne; Third, Alan Grant and Brian Gough.

In addition to the regular club nights on Wednesday and Friday at Noltan Church Hall at 7pm, there are lessons on Fridays for beginners with Graham Jones, also at 7pm. Lessons for improvers will resume in the autumn; all welcome.

To register an interest, contact Graham Jones (01446 775952), Steve Burgoyne (01656 661958) or David Newman (01656 649138).

Llamau receives cheque from MP

THE Bridgend MP, Madeleine Moon, has handed over a cheque to Llamau to help support their work - money received from completing parliamentary questionnaires.

She explained: "I invited Rachel Minchinton, head of communications at Llamau, to my constituency office to hand over a cheque for the charity."

"Llamau has worked in and around Bridgend for many years and is an inspirational organisation which helps homeless young, socially excluded men and vulnerable women."

"They give support and advice and I hope this cheque can in a small way help them continue their work."



Bridgend MP Madeleine Moon presents Llamau's head of communications Rachel Minchinton with the cheque.

Home safety lessons for WI members

THE MAY meeting of Brackla/Bridgend WI started with president Pauline Long introducing two local police community support officers, Donovan and Lisa.

They gave useful information and leaflets on home safety and also took some of the members ideas back with them. Nicola gave the vote of thanks.

It was then on to the resolution to be taken forward to the NFWI AGM, on the employment of more midwives. Eighteen members voted for this.

As of next month, we will be changing our

venue for our meetings. We will be holding all future meetings in The Hope Baptist Hall on the third Tuesday of the month, at 7.30pm.

This will enable us to open our books to enrol new members, as we will have larger premises.

So if you are interested to see what the WI has to offer, come along and visit us!

There is a special meeting on June 21 at The Hope, Sunday School Hall, on Station Hill at 7.30pm, when we will have the Shoestrung Apelation Group to entertain us. TB

Shy Giselle in need of a home



HELLO, my name is Giselle, I am a quiet, gentle lady who likes a quiet life.

I came to the Cats Protection Centre due to my owner being unwell. I love my home comforts but I am a little shy until I get to know you, so I need an understanding owner who will make me feel safe and loved.

Contact Cats Protection, Bridgend Adoption Centre, Pant Hirvaun, Bryncethin, Bridgend, CF32 9UJ; telephone 01656 726621; fax 01656 722012; email bridgend.manager@cats.org.uk.

TEACHERS' TIME

I WAS surprised to read in The GEM about the Bridgend teacher admitting to having difficulty in being able to synchronise her children's care with their school holidays.

What with teachers' numerous basic holidays, inset days and the odd day off on strike, perhaps now she understands how we mere mortals feel.

(Name and address supplied)

College assistant principal on awards shortlist

ROBERT EVANS, Bridgend College's assistant principal, quality and curriculum, has been selected as one of three finalists in the educator category at this year's IWA Inspire Wales Awards.

The awards recognise excellence, underline the importance of innovation in the public, private and voluntary sectors, encourage active involvement in Welsh civil society as well as championing equal opportunities.

The 'educator' category recognises an individual, teacher, lecturer or work-based trainer who has pioneered an initiative which has been hailed as an example of good practice in their locality, region or throughout Wales.



Robert Evans of Bridgend College, is up for a top award.

The finalists are interviewed by the judges in the Media Wales Offices, Cardiff and the IWA Inspire Wales Awards ceremony will take place on Thursday June 14 at the Cardiff City Hall.

Bridgend Male Choir perform at Oystermouth

HAVING only been appointed as Musical Director of Bridgend Male Choir in mid-April, Rhianon Williams-Hale will conduct them for the fourth time at All Saints Church, Oystermouth tomorrow (Friday, May 25) at 7pm, to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Swansea Bowls Club.

The engagement had originally been arranged by the late John Jenkins, who was an avid bowler at the Swansea club and well-known in south Wales as a distinguished musician. The concert will be shared with the euphonium player, Byron Newton, winner of the

2011 Russell Sheppard Scholarship at the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama.

The Bridgend musical team will include Laura Smith, accompanist, and Scott Williams, organist.

Tickets will be available at the door, price £10.

Rhianon's busy schedule with the choir will see her conducting another six engagements before August this year.

Due to her recent appointment, the choir have reluctantly decided that they will not be participating in the National Eisteddfod in the Vale in August, as there will be insufficient rehearsal time. TO'H

HIGH TIDE TIMES

(UNTIL MAY 31)

The high tides listed in this week's GEM are those in Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary.

For instance, in Barry, the high point will be 20 - 25 minutes later.

| DATE | Time AM | Ht M | Time PM | Ht M |
|---------|---------|------|---------|------|
| 24 Thur | 09.12 | 8.9 | 21.25 | 9.1 |
| 25 Fri | 09.46 | 8.8 | 22.02 | 8.9 |
| 26 Sat | 10.24 | 8.6 | 22.45 | 8.6 |
| 27 Sun | 11.11 | 8.4 | 23.31 | 8.4 |
| 28 Mon | 11.58 | 8.2 | | |
| 29 Tues | 00.23 | 8.3 | 13.03 | 8.0 |
| 30 Wed | 01.31 | 8.3 | 14.14 | 8.1 |
| 31 Thur | 02.41 | 8.5 | 15.24 | 8.4 |

While The GEM makes every effort to check the accuracy of tide tables, we recommend that anyone putting out to sea, or walking in an area where they could be cut off, should always check with a tide table specific to their location.

Did you know you can read your GEM online?
bridgend-today.co.uk

Quiz League

HERE are your four-for-thought:

1. Who was King of Scotland from 1040 to 1057?
2. Pablo Picasso was questioned by police in 1911 in connection with the theft of which painting?
3. Which British long jumper broke Lynn Davies' 32-year-old British record in 2002?
4. Who was President of the USA at the end of the break of World War I?

A RUDGE (for Quiz League)

4. Woodrow Wilson.
3. Chris Tomlinson.
2. Mona Lisa.
1. Macbeth.

Man used Jobseeker's Allowance to buy drugs

A HEROIN addict who was arrested, refused to tell the police from whom he had obtained drugs, Cardiff Crown Court heard.

Thomas Barlow (44) of Charles Row, Maesteg, was jailed for 20 weeks.

He admitted possessing heroin and diazepam, and was also in breach of a suspended sentence imposed for offering to supply drugs in Bridgend.

Prosecutor Jonathan Underhill said that on April 24, police stopped and searched Barlow because he appeared to be under the influence of drugs.

His speech was slurred and he said: "I have a few syringes and they're in my socks."

There, the police found three

syringes and in his jeans, they discovered heroin and valium.

"He said he had bought the drugs with his Jobseeker's Allowance and would not name his dealer," said Mr Underhill.

He denied being a dealer himself, and said he had been addicted to heroin for five years.

He was said to have convictions for 48 offences, including possessing drugs.

Regarding the breach of the suspended sentence for offering to supply drugs, Mr Underhill said he was arrested by undercover police officers.

His barrister, Martin Kelly, said: "He has been in custody on remand for 24 days. When it comes to his sentence, look at the overall picture."

AJ SICLUNA

Now Nico rises through ranks!

PROMOTIONS are rife in Kenfig Hill ATC! A few weeks ago, it was reported that six of the cadets had sat promotion boards and are on a three-month probation period.

Now another cadet has risen in the ranks to Instructor Staff Cadet Warrant Officer. Nico Fitzgibbon joined the ATC in August 2007 and since then has taken part in many of the aspects offered by the squadron and the Air Cadet Organisation.

The highest cadet rank is offered to those over the age of 18 and with exceptional commitment to the organisation.

It is an appointment on recommendation from the Squadron Commander, approved by the Wing Commander and appointed by Headquarters Air Cadets.

There are only up to 24 Cadet Warrant Officers in No3 Welsh



Nico Fitzgibbon.

Wing so as you can imagine Nico Fitzgibbon was delighted to receive this appointment. With the appointment comes an added responsibility, as Cadet Warrant Officers are frequently seen as an addition to the staff team of the squadron.

At the moment, SCWO Fitzgibbon is looking forward to taking part in Operation Felix later this year, which is an overseas camp.

LINDSAY THOMAS
Secretary, Civilian Committee

College students to carry Olympic Torch

RIGHT: Jak Powles (22) and his trusty guide dog Vance will be running part of the Olympic Torch relay in Bridgend this weekend.

BRIDGEND College is "extremely proud" of three of its students who have been selected to carry the Olympic Torch as it travels through Bridgend this Saturday, May 26, a spokesperson reports.

Jak Powles (22) of Herbert Street, Bridgend, is a blind learner studying the ITQ Level 2 course at Bridgend College and, as one of the Olympic torchbearers, will run from The Welcome to Town pub on Nolton Street to Merthyr Mawr Road, at 2.39pm. He will be accompanied by his trusted guide dog Vance.



Jak was nominated by his auntie in recognition of his "immeasurable courage and determination" to overcome the injuries he sustained after falling off his bike into traffic seven years ago.

He has a positive attitude and never gives up, and remains hopeful that he may one day regain his sight.

Kevin Blake (19) from Ogmore Vale and studying the Level 3 Extended Diploma in Sports Development and Coaching, will take the torch from Park Street to St Leonards Road.

Kevin was nominated by his brother because

he is passionate about sport and engaging local young people in sport.

He volunteers at his former school (Bridgend Christian School) where he coaches the pupils.

Kevin said: "I'm thrilled to be a part of

this spectacular occasion, what an honour."

Keiran MacKenzie (18) from Brackla, who is studying the Level 3 Extended Diploma Public Services at Bridgend College, said: "I feel extremely privileged to be a part of this once in a lifetime opportunity."

Keiran will take the torch at 3.04pm from Oaklands Drive to Philip Avenue. He was nominated by his proud mum in recognition of the fact that he has recently completed the Welsh Three Peaks Challenge, raising £1,061.23 for his nephew who has Cerebral Palsy.

He achieved his bronze medal in life saving and is about to undertake a coaching course so he can help others learn to swim, all while personally managing ADHD and Dyslexia.

GREEN MESSAGE IS TAKEN ON THE ROAD



Tidy Ted and friends.

AN environmental road show has completed a whistle-stop tour of every primary school in Bridgend

county borough.

The BCBC initiative featuring cuddly character 'Eco Eli' and his new pal 'Tidy Ted' was designed to deliver important environmental messages in a fun way.

The show included lessons on looking after the environment and not dropping litter, using the household recycling collection service, and cleaning up after pets.

Funded by Tidy Towns and Sustainable Waste grants, the Gregory Brothers' production included catchy songs and plenty of participation from the children.

Coun Phil White, cabinet member for communities, said: "We have had fantastic feedback about the road show."

"The children were very enthusiastic about taking part and it was clear that they were being informed, as well as entertained."

"We designed the show so it would complement the 'Eco Schools' programme and support the sustainability topics in the national curriculum. As a council, we know that we need citizens of all ages to understand the importance of looking after the environment."

"I have no doubt that after the success of this show, the youngsters will be teaching mums, dads and carers a thing or two!"

Kenfig WI says congratulations!

PRESIDENT Pat Williams opened the April meeting by extending congratulations to Irene and Winston Jones on their golden wedding anniversary.

Reports were then given on the various events of the month. These included the Cardiff conducted tour afternoon, the Tai-Chi taster morning and the Federation flower arranging day. All the activities were greatly enjoyed.

Jean David exhibited her beautiful entry for the Federation Diamond Jubilee card competition and Brenda Greenwood thanked all who had attended the coffee morning which helped her daughter, Fiona, raise funds for 'Children with Cancer'. Fiona has since completed the

London Marathon, raising a total of £2,200 for her charity. Well Done!

The evening ended with hilarious excerpts from Jon Prince's book of poetry.

The May meeting began with an account of the Glan-y-Mor Group link evening, hosted by Kenfig at the Cornelly Community Hall. Debra John had opened the entertainment dressed as a Victorian maid and recounted stories of the lives of the people who lived 'Upstairs and Downstairs' in her master's home.

The ladies' choir 'One Accord' closed the festivities with their repertoire of wonderful songs.

A discussion took place on this year's WI Resolution, "That the government be asked for additional funds to provide and train more midwives". The vote was a unanimous 'yes'.

Ruth Tatchell

Jemma returns home to dance



JEMMA BEATTY

A PORTHCAWL dancer will be on stage at the Grand Pavilion on Friday with the award-winning Ballet Cymru.

Jemma Beatty trained at the prestigious dance school, Laine Theatre Arts, and has recently returned from dancing in Milan, Italy.

The ballet company, formerly called Independent Ballet Wales, will be performing Roald Dahl's 'Little Red Riding Hood' and 'Three Little Pigs'.

Dahl was born in Llandaff, and two of his hugely popular stories are coming home to Wales in ballet adaptations.

Ballet Cymru have been granted permission from The Dahl Foundation to produce two works based on sections of 'Revolting Rhymes'.

Both works are based on scores by composer Paul Patterson, commissioned by The Dahl Foundation and are now children's classics played all over the globe.

Plea to preserve chapel tradition

THE lovely Tabernacle chapel in Pontycymmer was a perfect venue for the concert with Bridgend Male Choir, which I attended on Friday, May 11.

The evening's programme was made even more pleasurable by the contributions from Meirion Davies, trumpet soloist, and the delightful items sung by Ysgol Cwm Garw and Ffridau primary school choirs.

The Bridgend choir was as usual on top form, and their musical director, Rhianon Williams-Hale, gave a masterful performance, her control and sensitivity bringing the best out of the choir.

Their programme was a well-balanced mix of traditional male voice pieces, ably supported by their musical team of

READER'S REVIEW

Laura Smith on piano and Scott Williams on organ.

As if the musical content were not enough, the evening's compere was Huw Edwards of BBC fame. His charming, natural manner had the audience spell-bound throughout, and he was generous in his praise of everyone who had contributed to the success of the event.

He also spoke passionately of the need for us all to help preserve what remained of the chapel tradition in Wales.

It was appropriate that the concert was in aid of the Pontycymmer Tabernacle Chapel's appeal for funds to restore its magnificent organ.

Eileen Grouck, Bridgend.

Toddlers turn superhero!

NURSERY and reception pupils at St Clare's School, Porthcawl, are joining the UK's biggest charity event for children up to the age of five - The Barnardo's Big Toddler.

The event helps raise much-needed funds for the most vulnerable toddlers across the country, and St Clare's School Nursery is hosting its own event to lend a hand, taking place on June 14, from 1.30pm-3pm, in the school grounds.

The theme of the Barnardo's Big Toddler this year is superheroes, and all children taking part will complete a short

sponsored walk before getting the opportunity to enjoy the afternoons activities.

Refreshments will also be included, as well as a magic show performed by magician Ali Khali.

Money raised on the day will go to Barnardo's projects that support children under five - making Porthcawl toddlers real-life heroes for the day.

The projects include family centres, playgroups and parenting support services across the UK.

For more information, contact Mrs King or Mrs Smithen on 01656 782509.

News update at Newton WI

PRESIDENT Pearl welcomed everyone and quickly went through all the evenings that are planned, such as a trip to Bath, summer tea and a Jubilee lunch.

For the 80th anniversary of the Grand Pavilion, members were asked to get in touch with any memories they have of being there.

The Jubilee lunch, which is being organised by Lord Kenfig, is

all arranged.

The Link meeting went really well, the speaker made everyone laugh and the choir was excellent.

The council meeting was in Barry, where over 400 ladies attended and Lowri Morgan, the TV presenter, was the speaker that day.

If you would like to join us, come along to Gilgal Hall, Woodland Avenue, on the first Wednesday of every month or get in touch with Pearl on 01656 772657.

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Young poet's first book is a landmark

RIGHT: Rhian Edwards reading at the Duke of Wellington as part of the Cowbridge Book Festival.

A YOUNG Bridgend writer has just had her first book published – an accolade that follows being named as the “best performance poet” in Wales.

As a result, the Bridgend publishing house, Seren Books, has rushed out Rhian Edwards' first collection, entitled *Clueless Dogs*, and the official Bridgend launch is tomorrow evening (May 25) in Bauhaus in the town centre, where she will be supported by local poets Robert Minihinnick and Kris Evans.

Rhian, who was born in Bridgend, moved to Oxford when she was six, but has always had family ties and has been a regular visitor.

After living and working in London, she moved back to Bridgend two years

by PHILIP IRWIN

ago, and the town is now a base for her developing career as a poet.

The GEM caught up with her when she read at the Cowbridge Book Festival and was warmly applauded by an audience who were impressed by her ability to perform her poems from memory.

She also performed one piece (in the acerbic style of American wit Dorothy Parker) in an authentic American accent.

This dedication to her craft was clearly a factor in winning the John Tripp award for spoken poetry 2011/12.

She told The GEM: “There are a series of regional qualifying rounds, and then a final in Swansea, and I won both the judges’ award and the audience award – some-

thing that was unprecedented, apparently.”

Rhian started writing poetry about nine years ago, after being persuaded to go to an open mic night at a poetry venue in London.

At school, she had performed in school plays, and she was also in a “quirky” folk band, but that poetry evening in London set her off in a new direction.

She said: “I had gone to the London School of Economics, but I didn’t graduate. At the time, I was living in London and writing for the Financial Times.”

However, wanting to write and perform my own poetry meant a career change.

Also, the folk band broke up, in a ‘rock and roll’ way, after a fight on stage between band members! Now, Rhian breaks up her poetry performances with the occasional song.

Clueless Dogs is, in effect, a book of two halves. Rhian explained: “The first half of the book is a series of character portraits of family and friends, while the theme of the second



ABOVE: Robert Minihinnick reading from *The Keys of Babylon*.

half is looking back on a love affair.”

At the Cowbridge Book Festival, she was joined by Robert Minihinnick, who was reading from his new book, *The Keys of Babylon*, which has recently been nominated for the Welsh book of the year.

Rhian said: “I sent my first batch of poems to Robert when he was editor of *Poetry Wales* and, although he didn’t publish any, he sent me a personal letter of advice and encouragement.

“When I sent another batch, he selected a few and became the first person to publish any of my work.”

Bridgend MP backs national poetry project

BRIDGEND MP, Madeleine Moon, has lent her support to a campaign to promote *Arts in Parliament*, a series of unique performances and exhibitions celebrating artistic talent from across the UK.

It is part of Parliament’s contribution to cultural festivals and events across the UK during Olympic year.

She explained that the Represent Project will culminate in the creation of an ‘epic poem for the 21st Century’ on the themes of identity, voice, democratic engagement and political representation.

“I am happy to support the Represent Project as it is a creative way to engage everyone in Parliament and democracy. I have sent details to all the schools in the Bridgend con-

stituency inviting them to take part in this unique event.”

“Everyone can take part in the project. All you need to do is submit a couple of sentences about what representation means to you.”

The final poem will be curated by a leading spoken word artist, and presented as a digital collage on film. The film will be shown in Westminster Hall during the Arts in Parliament programme between August 1-6 and will be available online.

To participate, include your first name, age and city or town you live in, and submit your short contributions via: email to represent@parliament.uk, Twitter using the hashtag #represent2012 or YouTube.

Submissions must be received by Monday, June 25. For full rules and details visit: www.parliament.uk/artsinparliament.

PORTHCAWL JUBILEE EVENTS SCHEDULE

AFTER months of hard work, Lindsay Morgan and his Porthcawl Diamond Jubilee committee have produced a tremendous programme of events to attract young and old for Jubilee week (June 2-10).

By the month’s end, the group will have distributed over 3,000 commemorative medallions to school children in Porthcawl.

Nobody has been left out of the planning, demonstrated by the provision of approaching 400 lunches through our local churches aimed at providing the older members of the community with free celebration lunches, and centred around ‘Churches Together in Porthcawl’ on June 3.

Three days of action will centre at Porthcawl Rugby Ground, South Road.

The Tuesday will see the activities move on to the Promenade, where our ‘Party on the Prom’ entertainment, refreshments will again be provided.

The lighting of the official beacons, two fireworks displays, a life-guard beach carnival involving teams from across south Wales, a ‘Big Band Sound’ dance in the Pavilion; will create variety.

This will culminate on the Sunday evening with an opportunity for the whole town to come together in the Grand Pavilion for a ‘Special Service of Celebration and Thanksgiving’ for her Majesty the Queen.

The town has already launched a special celebration song for Porthcawl that has been sent to Buckingham Palace, commencing with the words: “Oh tis a glorious time to celebrate the reign of our royal Queen”, and ending: “Yes, today let Porthcawl shout and cheer, long life to our gracious Queen”, sung to a Gilbert and Sullivan tune.

Events SATURDAY, June 2, at Porthcawl RFC, South Road, 12 noon start, all-afternoon Jubilee Cup competitions: Porthcawl v Pyle RFC and Neath Athletic Ladies v Whitland.

International Ladies. Local talent on stage, live bands, meet and greet exhibitions, stalls and fun fair. SUNDAY June 3, at most churches in Porthcawl, 12 noon-3pm, Diamond Jubilee celebration lunch, arranged by volunteer churches throughout Porthcawl. Meet and Greet, fashionable hats contest, stalls, fun fair on South Road.

MONDAY June 4, at Porthcawl RFC, South Road, from 12 noon, junior sports events: ‘Champions of Porthcawl’; tug of war contest (teams of eight) teddy bears’ picnic. Meet and greet, stalls and a fun fair.

Then, at Rhych Point (10.20pm) and Hutchwns Point (10.26pm), the ceremonial lighting of the beacons takes place. Sponsored by The Rotary Club of Porthcawl. Special partners: Porthcawl Life-guard Club and 1st Porthcawl Scouts Group.

TUESDAY, June 5, Porthcawl Promenade, John Street, and sea front, from 10am-5pm, free road train and open top bus rides, with a meet and greet.

At the Lower Prom, from 2pm-5pm, the party on the prom; refreshments, and the best entertainment Porthcawl can provide.

At Hi Tide, Sandy Bay, after dark, sponsored fireworks display with meet and greet. ON Wednesday and Thursday (June 6-7), AT Locations across Porthcawl, street parties will be taking place. Look out for special notices in your area of Porthcawl.

ON Wednesday June 6, at Hi Tide, from 4.30pm-6.30pm, children’s grand Diamond Jubilee celebration.

FRIDAY, June 8, at Trinity Church Hall, at 10.30am, Marie Curie Jubilee coffee morning.

Then at the Grand Pavilion, 7pm until late – ‘The Big Band Sound’ – a special tribute to Harry Danell. Sounds of the 1950s and 60s. Cabaret seating with dance floor. Tickets: £17.50.

SATURDAY, June 9, at Sandy Bay, Coney Beach and Rhych Point, from 11am, Porthcawl Life-guard Club: beach carnival. Teams from all over south Wales involved.

At Sandy Beach after dark: special Jubilee fireworks display.

SUNDAY June 10, at Sandy Bay from 12 noon, Jubilee boating pageant.

At the Grand Pavilion from 6pm – special service of celebration for Her Majesty The Queen. all are welcome.

Friday, June 15, at Hi Tide from 7pm – 1940s night.

Your Carer Needs You singer and swing band, 1940s dance demo and a fish and chip supper. Tickets £15.

Reminders All we need now is the weather and the participation of the people of Porthcawl.

If you or your organisation are not committed to participate in the event yet, or if you require more information, call Lindsay Morgan on 07714 714971.

Don’t miss the opportunity to enter for the water-less swimming pool gala on Tuesday and the chance to win a medal.

Now is the time to enter for the eight-person tug of war event on the Monday at the rugby ground. Who will be Porthcawl Jubilee

champions? Take advantage on Saturday, Sunday and Monday to set up a stall and advertise your organisation, perhaps fundraise by selling your produce or paintings or craftwork.

There will even be a place for sole traders to sell their products ‘market stall’ fashion.

Don’t forget the historic lighting of the beacons on the Monday or the fireworks on Tuesday and Saturday.

Perhaps the highlight of the week is the dance in the Pavilion, where you can enjoy the ‘Big Band Sound’.

We are even given the opportunity to give thanks for the Queen’s reign on the Sunday evening at the Pavilion.

Don’t forget, that five days later, the carers’ 1940s fish and chip supper rounds off the special events programme.

CLIVE MORT

Publicity Officer Porthcawl Diamond Jubilee committee

COMMUNITY NEWS

ST BRIDES MAJOR

Your local correspondent is Patricia Bevan-Morgan (01656) 880418

LOCAL TALENT Five pupils from St Brides Major C/W Primary School represented the Vale Schools under-11 rugby team in the prestigious DC Thomas Cup final; Jamie Howells, Owen Durlucia, Ioan Williams, Jack Dixon and Lewis Hawk.

All received winners’ medals after gaining victory against Pontypool Schools.

THE annual sponsored walk in aid of Children in Distress took place on Monday, May 7.

Although the weather was against such a walk, many brave people took part, battling against the wind, rain and mud.

The walkers arrived back at St Illtyd’s Church, Llantwit for a very welcome cup of tea and refreshments.

The sponsorship made over £800; a big thank you to all who took part.

OGMORE Retired Residents Association meet at All Saints on Thursday, May 17, when the guest speaker will be Belinda of the Heritage Coast, Seamount, Southerndown.

THE St Brides Major Community Council’s AGM took place at All

Saints, Southerndown, on Monday, May 14.

The outgoing chairman, Alun Morgan, gave a report on the past year’s activities. Coun Lesley Walters was elected chairman for the forthcoming year with Coun Audrey Preston as vice-chair.

The formation of committees took place with a few items left over until the next meeting. The internal and external auditors were re-appointed.

The date of the ordinary meetings remain the same – the second Monday of the month at All Saints, Southerndown, at 7pm, with August being subject to any urgent business.

Co-option of members to the council – due to the lack of councillors to make up the required number of 11 members (three from St Brides Major and three from Ogmores-by-Sea), the clerk was instructed to ask for written nominations by June 4 for consideration.

The AGM was followed by the usual meeting, when it was noted that a landmark in Ogmores-by-Sea for generations had been demolished over the weekend – namely, Sea Lawns Hotel, the former home of the well-known Booker family.

The next council meeting will be on Monday, June 11 at 7pm at All Saints, Southerndown.

Who wants to build what and where?

Mr M Thomas – 14 Heol y Dolau, Pencoeed – Demolish dead tree ((1982) OBC No. 01).

Mr Gary Woodward – 14 Lark Rise, Brackla – Prune ash tree.

Mr Alan Emery – 54 Hazeldene Avenue, Brackla – Modification of original handstanding (resubmission of planning application P/11/859/FUL).

Mrs Daisy Lewis – Bridgend County Care and Repair, Brocastle Manor House, Brocastle – Garage conversion plus new external ramp.

Wales and West Housing – Coed Parc, Park Street, Bridgend – Demolish single storey outbuilding.

Gwyn G Jones and Sons Limited – 13 Wimbourne Road, Pencoeed – Single storey rear extension.

Mr David Morris – 16 Pen yr Ysgol, Maesteg – Single story extension to rear.

Mr Jim Lacey – Greenmeadow Inn, Greenmeadow Terrace, Llangeinor – Erect 6 dwellings including access and car parking (outline application).

mews houses. Triangle 3 Limited – Overflow car park, Waterton Retail Park, Waterton Road, Bridgend – New A3 unit with associated access, servicing and car parking.

Principality Building Society – 23 John Street, Porthcawl – Refurbishment to upper floor units to create two additional apartments.

Mr R Woolcock – 13 Great Western Avenue, Bridgend – Attic conversion with roof extension.

Miss Sonia Jones – Land at Craig y Aber Forest, Cefn Cribwr – Construct new temporary entrance off highway to allow off-road stacking of timber and loading lorries.

Mrs Tracy Greening – 10 Bramble Close, Brackla – Two storey extension.

Waterstone Homes – Land off South Road, Porthcawl – Demolish existing buildings and construct 8 no. dwellings and associated works.

Mr Paul Hebblethwaite – Lidl UK, GMBH Distribution Centre, Waterton, Bridgend – Proposed extension and install new grey PVC membrane over ext aluminium standing seam warehouse roof.

Bridgend's women are out in force to Race for Life



PHOTOGRAPHS by DEAN THOMAS

IT was a day of female bonding and solidarity when the women of Bridgend joined the "Race for Life" organised by Cancer Research UK.

There was an excellent turnout on a warm, sunny day, as the runners (and walkers) set out on the 5km course in Newbridge Fields.

The men were there purely as spectators, which meant that local photographer Dean Thomas could take these images.



PUPILS EMBRACE OLYMPIC SPIRIT



ABOVE: Abercerdin Primary School pupils proudly display their Olympic torches

PUPILS at Saturday, May 26.
Abercerdin Primary School, Gilfach Goch, have been creating their own Olympic Torches as part of the build up to the Olympic Torch Relay's visit to Bridgend county borough on

county borough. The children have spent time in school learning about the origins of the Games in Ancient Greece and had a great time producing fantastic replica torches. For more information, contact BCBC's Arts and Community Development Department at: arts@bridgend.gov.uk

Melanie (and Hannah from Bridgend) carry torch for the Olympics!

AMONG the torchbearers carrying the Olympic flame across Wales this week, will be Diabetes UK Cymru's nominee, sprinter Melanie Stephenson from Cardiff.

Melanie (23) was diagnosed with Type 1 diabetes, an unpreventable condition which happens when the body stops making insulin, when she was 13.

Since then, she's become an athlete, representing Wales internationally in the 100m and 200m.

She was nominated for her volunteering work for the charity, which has seen her give talks, volunteer at events and help to raise awareness of diabetes by sharing her experiences in the Welsh media.

The fashion graduate will bear the torch from Cowbridge Road East, round the Castle and into Coopers Field where the main stage will be on Friday, May 25 at about 7.15pm.

"I will be the last runner to receive the torch which may mean I'm going to be lighting the flame of the Olympic cauldron on the main stage!" says Melanie.

Dai Williams, National Director of Diabetes UK Cymru, said: "We nominated Melanie as an Olympic torchbearer to thank her for everything she has done as a Diabetes UK Cymru volunteer. We'll be there on the day to cheer her on!"

Another DUK Cymru volunteer is also bearing the Olympic torch - 14-year-old Hannah Jarrett from Laleston, near Bridgend.

She was nominated by her youth club, writes a blog on the charity's website and has completed many sponsored events for Diabetes UK Cymru and other charities.

Hannah, who has Type 1 diabetes and coeliac disease, will carry the torch at about 4.10pm on Saturday, May 26, from Margam Road to Landore Avenue in the Pyle area.

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ROTARY GETS PEOPLE OUT WALKING

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ABOVE:

Line-up for the start of the walk.

Report and photographs
by **KEITH E MORGAN**

A FIVE-KILOMETRE charity fun walk on Sunday, May 20, was organised by the Rotary Clubs of Bridgend, Maesteg and Porthcawl.

It was started on the Promenade by Simon Richardson, Paralympic gold medalist, with the route extending to the Lifeguard Station at Rest Bay and back.

The weather was great and there was a good turn-out of adults, children and dogs, along with representatives from government and local councils.

Music and the PA system were kindly provided by Derek Gaynor of the Highwayman Inn, Rhosce.

RIGHT:

Simon Richardson, Paralympic gold medalist, cutting the ribbon to start the walk.



ABOVE: 'First home adults' being presented with their certificates. Left to right: Wendy Wood and Judith Sheppard, joint third; Roger Grannum, president, Bridgend Rotary doing the honours; Dennis Lynch, second; and first past the post in a time of 45 minutes to complete the five-kilometre walk, Angela Beard.



ABOVE: John Walters making the most of the beautiful weather.



LEFT: The St John Ambulance team.

ABOVE: Striding out along the esplanade towards Lock's Common.

Masonic Bikers take to the road for charity

TEN retired Free Masons, all motorbike enthusiasts, are doing 'a sponsored round Britain motorbike ride' to raise funds for RMBI (Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution) homes.

There are 17 homes in this country, and so far the Masonic Bikers have visited those at Leicester, Bury St Edmunds, Braintree, Bromley, Croydon, Watford, Reading, Hindhead, Hove, Bournemouth, Exeter, and Porthcawl. They are



Lining up for a 'Le Mans' style start.

then travelling back to Leicester via Llandudno, Liverpool, Manchester, Newcastle and York.

The sponsored ride has been organised with

two aspects in mind. Firstly, to tour all the Masonic homes to raise as much money as possible for all their residents, and secondly, to help raise awareness of

the need for all Masonic Brethren in all of the provinces to support the RMBI, as well as to highlight the friends who support the homes.

During their last

round Britain trip, the Masonic Bikers raised £6,000 for the homes.

The tour is organised by Michael Robinson (Captain of the Motorbike Rider



Patients and staff all wanting to have a go on the Harley Davidsons.

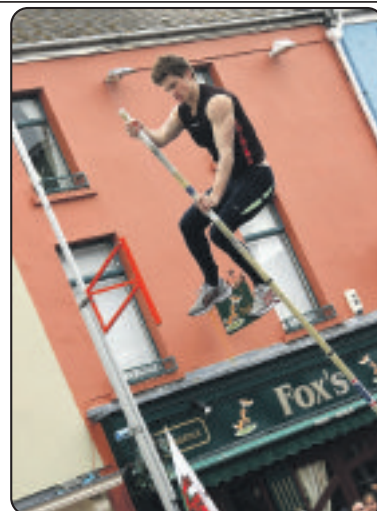
Group) and Mark Pierpoint. During their visit to the Albert Edward Prince of Wales Court, RMBI home at Porthcawl, the bikers thrilled the residents

there by roaring up on their Harley Davidsons. After lining the bikes up in 'Le Mans' start fashion, the bikers posed for their group photograph with some

of the residents and staff riding on the powerful bikes themselves.

Report and photographs by
KEITH E MORGAN.

Everyone gets active as Bridgend Mash-Up gives town centre crowds plenty to look at



THE Bridgend Mash-Up came to town again last weekend, and crowds were out in force to see the unusual mix of daredevil physical activities, market stalls and live music.

Once again, BMX riders performed breathtaking stunts, with pole vaulting in the street (see below). There was roller derby racing, and young musicians took to the stage in Market Street.



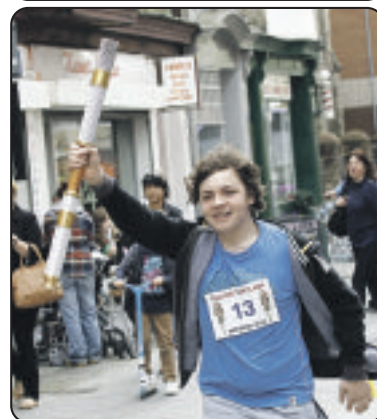
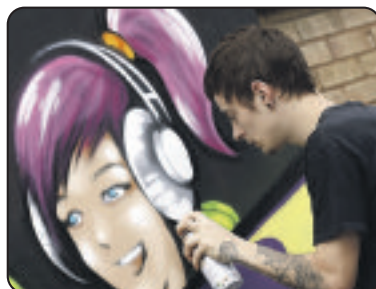
PHOTOGRAPHS by GLYN EVANS

Other pictures are
available from this event.

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Verity's Court, Cowbridge.



YOUR CHANCE TO SHARE THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Aberkenfig Women's Institute

AT the recent meeting of Aberkenfig and District Women's Institute, 'happy birthday' was sung to Eileen Evans.

President Eunice then called on Dilys Mitchell to present the argument for the Resolution this year.

It calls on the Government to increase investment in the training, employment and retention of midwives in Wales and England to ensure services are adequately resourced and able to deliver a high standard of care.

This subject was enthusiastically debated by the 20 members present. Midwives now have to be trained to degree level and the midwifery course cannot be taken after completing a State Registered Nursing course as in the past. To train a midwife takes 3-4 years, so planning ahead is essential.

If nurses and midwives are considered so essential why are there so few training places and jobs available?

The Government states it has already increased the number of midwives in training, yet there are not enough to meet estimated shortfalls.

The motion was carried unanimously; the votes will now be taken to the annual general meeting at the Royal Albert Hall in London.

The raffle was won by Maureen Pearce and Betty Samuel and the competition was won by Pearl Major with a crystal rabbit.

Eunice Williams then announced that there will be a federation lunch on June 27 and the annual trip will be to the Royal Botanic

Gardens on August 8. She thanked the tea hostesses Gillian Williams, Mair Starr and Hilary Crocombe.

The next meeting is the 31st anniversary party so there will not be a speaker; the competition will be for any item beginning with the letter 'A' and there will not be a sales table.

New members and visitors are always welcome at meetings on the second Wednesday of each month at 2pm in Welfare Hall, Heol Persondy, Aberkenfig.

For further details, contact secretary Pat Lewis on 01656 721933. More information, including a full programme of meetings, can be found on the Bridgend Cobwebs website - www.cobwebs.co.uk

Children's choir

MAESTEG children's choir recently took part in an annual concert on Wednesday, May 16, at the Zion Chapel, Maesteg, to raise money for Christian Aid.

Enid-Siân Hughes, the musical director, had chosen a varied programme for the youngsters to sing in Welsh and English. These included 'The Lord is my Shepherd', 'Pan Fo'r Nos Yn Hir', the Canadian songwriter Leonard Cohen's song 'Hallelujah' and the Abba hit 'Thank you for the music'. Siân also showed off her prowess as a soprano with a number of solos.

It was the first time the choir had performed in public with new accompanist, Rhianon Williams-Hale.

The audience had a surprise with truly impressive trumpet solos by 13-year-old Harvey Rees.

The compère for the

NORTH BRIDGEND NEWS

A message for all readers in the north of Bridgend who would like to have items included in the community news columns of The Gem:

If you wish to submit reports on any social activity in this region, please contact me. I am very approachable and will endeavour to include every newsworthy subject.

Contact details: CLIVE MITCHELL

1 Tyn-Y-Coed Close, Sarn, Bridgend CF32 9NQ

TEL: 01656 725399

email: tyncoed1@yahoo.co.uk



MAESTEG CHILDREN'S CHOIR.

evening was Anthony Bywe a brilliant raconteur, who also has a great tenor voice.

On June 1, the choir will be performing in a concert at Ynysawdre community hall, Bryn Road, Maesteg, who is studying music at the University of Wales. Enid-Siân Hughes, musical director of the choir, who was instrumental with her mother, Beatrice Alsop-Jones, in forming the choir 26 years ago. Siân has been invited to a tea party in the gardens of Buckingham Palace on Tuesday, May 29, at 2pm.

Choirs in Coity Castle
ON Saturday, June 16, at 5pm, there is a charity concert in the grounds of the castle.

Entry will be by programme payable at the gate (£5) and the concert has been organised to raise money for four children's charities.

Seven south Wales choirs will take part, including Morriston Ladies, which last year celebrated its 70th anniversary, having been formed in 1941, with choristers from the First Aid defence group, under musical director, Miss Lillian Abbot.

The choir's present long-serving musical director, Anthony Williams, has considerably widened the repertoire. The choir is renowned for raising funds for worthwhile charities.

The choir's president is Shân Cothi, who has sung with it on numerous occasions, and was the Blue Riband winner in the Welsh National Eisteddfod in 1995.

Friends' fete
MAESTEG Hospital League of Friends will be holding its 50th anniversary fete on Wednesday, June 20, in the grounds of the Celtic club, Garth,



TRUMPETER HARVEY REES.

Maesteg, at 1pm and entry is £1 for adults and free for children.

Mixed choir
BRACKLA Community Chorus will be performing in a charity concert at Aberkenfig Bible Church (Old Lyric cinema), Pandry Road, Aberkenfig, on Friday, May 25, at 7.30pm.

The mixed voice choir of approximately 30 members (musical director, Gillian Ridout) will be accompanied on the piano by Gareth Waite.

Also appearing is the Pencoe Silver Band, with additional music by the 'Champagne Flutes', a quartet of four flute players.

All the money raised will be donated to Velindre Hospital cancer department. Tickets cost £5 and can be obtained from choristers, band members or at the door.

The Community Chorus rehearses in Brackla Community Centre on Wednesday evenings between 6.30pm and 8.30pm.

Charity benefits
OGMORE Valley ladies choir and society each year, through various fund raising efforts, donate thousands of pounds to a charity of their choice - and this year the choice is the Alzheimer's charity.

To raise money for this worthwhile cause, the choir will be performing on June 1 at the Rest in Porthcawl.

Carers' Centre
BRIDGEND Carers' Centre at 87 Park Street, Bridgend, CF31 4AZ, (telephone 01656 658479), is a social centre for unpaid family carers.

Tomorrow (Friday, May 25) it has organised a tour of the Millennium Stadium, Cardiff, with Paula, who has arranged for an experienced guide. The tour will be leaving Bridgend at 9.30am and places must be booked.

On May 28 there will be the book Cwtch between 1pm and 4pm.

On May 30, Howells solicitors will give advice on legal issues affecting carers between 10am to 12pm. Book an appointment on 01656 658479.

On May 31, there is a special carers' Jubilee coffee morning at 10.30am, followed the annual general meeting at 11am.

On May 31, there is the 'Body Blitz' exercise class between 1.30pm and 2.30pm.

Concert
ON Saturday, May 26 at 8pm, Ogmogre Valley Male Voice Choir will perform in a charity concert at Aberkenfig social club, to raise funds for both the cancer department in Velindre hospital and Y Bwthyn at the Princess of Wales hospital.

New members are welcome to attend choir practice every Thursday at 7pm at Canolfan Bethlehem, Commercial Street, Ogmogre Vale.

Local fundraisers hand over cheques to worthy causes

On May 15, cheques totalling £8,648 were presented to the following charities; Sandville, Latch, and Velindre, after being raised by local charity 'Touched by Cancer'.

The fundraising started with the Halloween walk at Kenfig Nature Reserve, where a few hundred people of all ages turned up in fancy dress to take on the dune walk.

It culminated in an evening of light music provided free by local DJ Sting (big thanks to the staff at Kenfig Nature Reserve).

A hog roast donated by David Brace, and bread rolls, hot dogs and burgers donated by various other people, went down well with the walkers.

The fundraising event continued at Easter, with the support of the Co-operative at Pyle, allowing the charity to sell raffle tickets.

Touched By Cancer was set up by Megan Butcher and Douglas "Lopper" Wilson two years ago, and is growing from strength to strength.

They would like to take this opportunity to thank the army of helpers for their continuous help and support. They would also like to thank everyone who, in a time of recession, put their hands in their pockets and gave for such worthy causes.



Plant sale a 'huge success'

THE annual Llanmaes plant sale was held on May 13 in the grounds of the village hall, when a selection of annuals, perennials, hanging baskets, etc, were on offer, along with cream teas and a raffle.

It was a fabulously successful day, thanks to the generous residents' donations of plants, which are increasing by the year. "Lovely sunshine, a great turnout and the usual enthusiasm from the social committee and volunteers all helped to make this year a huge success," a spokeswoman reported.

News from the Colwinston and Llysworney WI

AT the May meeting, the resolution to be taken to the National AGM was debated - "to urge Government to put more resources into the training, employment and retention of midwives".

Our secretary, Sue McKinnon, had trained as a midwife in the 1980s and gave us an insight into this, plus facts and figures for today.

Two new mums, Debbie Lewis and Claire Marks, told us of their experiences of the midwifery service when they had their babies recently, and many members recounted their own stories, including one who, during labour at home during the 1970s, shared a

cigarette with the midwife! How times have changed.

Names were taken for the village fete tea rota and float and also for the theatre trip to St Fagans.

Every WI has been challenged to walk 209 miles, the distance from Llanfair PG, where the first WI was formed in the UK, to the Olympic Stadium, as the crow flies.

Several miles were added to the list with walking the dog, swimming and golf as the main activities.

The next meeting is a treasure hunt around Colwinston, starting at the village hall at 7.30pm. Everyone is welcome.

KJ

1092 Bridgend Squadron earns Mars Refuel award

THE 1092 Bridgend Squadron Air Training Corps, based in Bridgend, is celebrating after receiving a £250 donation from the Mars Refuel Drink Fund.

A recent survey conducted by chocolate milk drink, Mars Refuel revealed that the main barriers preventing people from taking part in sport are a lack of motivation and cost. With the incredible summer of sport that lies ahead, there should be plenty to motivate people to get active.

The Mars Refuel

Drink Fund was set up to help individuals and clubs play their chosen sport for longer.

Pilot Officer Balaji Rajan RAFVR(T) says: "We have 30 Cadets taking part in their Duke of Edinburgh Award expeditions this year, so we are in need of tents, roll mats, rucksacks, camping cookers, compasses and waterproofs.

"With this donation from the MARS Refuel Drink Fund we can purchase the camping equipment we'll need."

Applicants for support can be made online at: www.marsrefuel.com.

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ADVERTISEMENT FEATURE

Time to plan ahead
with PASSMORES

LAWYERS around Wales and England are running a national 'Make a Lasting Power of Attorney' campaign, to encourage people to plan ahead to avoid problems if they later lose men-

tal capacity.

It means making a Lasting Power of Attorney (LPA) on the new version of the forms, which came into force in October 2009.

A Lasting Power of Attorney is a legal document that enables one person to make decisions on behalf of another.

There are two types of LPA: financial and wel-

fare. Financial LPAs enable a person to act on behalf of another if, for example, they are ill or disabled and cannot act for themselves.

A welfare LPA enables a person to act on behalf of another if that person does not have the mental capacity to act for themselves, for example, in the case of a severe stroke.

Without an LPA, it may be necessary for family members to apply to the Court of Protection for authority. This can be a distressing and lengthy process and is far more expensive than making an LPA.

Once all parties have signed the LPA, they must then be registered with the Office of the Public Guardian before they can be used.

Carli Evans of Passmores Solicitors and a member of Solicitors for the Elderly, is actively encouraging all people to plan ahead and make Lasting Powers of Attorneys.

People wishing to discuss their requirements, should contact Carli Evans to arrange a suitable no obligation appointment on 01446 721000, or by email ce@passmores.com



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Carli Evans, a member of Solicitors for the Elderly, is inviting you to attend a no-obligation appointment to find out more.

For more information, please call:

Carli Evans on 01446 721000

or by email ce@passmores.com.

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HAIRDRESSERS CUT ABOVE
THE REST AT SALON CYMRU

YOUNG hairdressers from salons in Bridgend, St Brides Major and Porthcawl proved they were a cut above the rest by winning prizes at Wales' premier event for creative hairdressing and beauty recently.

Rebecca Watkins from USTU salon in Porthcawl won the Cut it like Essex competition and Toni Ann James, The Priory, Bridgend was runner-up at ISA Training's Salon Cymru held at The SWALEC Stadium, Cardiff.

Taking 'The Only Way is Essex' television series as its theme, competitors were challenged to create their own Joey and Lauren cut and blow dry.

Stacey Ranson from Coast Hair Studio in St Brides Major was awarded two third prizes in the Vamp it up and Cutting with the X-Factor competitions.

Overall champion of Salon Cymru was hair stylist Marcus Scott, who owns Identity salon in Haverfordwest.

Popular television programmes and films

inspired the themes for the six competitions at the popular event, which attracted the best young hairdressers from across Wales and Gloucestershire.

More than 120 competitors took part in the dynamic event, which was compered by BBC Wales presenter Lucy Owen and attracted an audience of around 500. The main sponsor was City & Guilds.

Organised by Bridgend-based ISA Training, the largest independent hairdressing training provider in Wales, Salon Cymru is open to all hairdressing and beauty learners from schools, colleges and training providers.

The full results were:
Gleeek Chic: 1, Kristian Johns, Spirit Hair Team, Ystrad Mynach, 2, Alex Williams, Coleg Gwent, Newport, 3, Emma Bennett, Identity,

Haverfordwest;

Cut it like Essex: 1, Rebecca Watkins, USTU, Porthcawl, 2, Toni Ann James, The Priory, Bridgend, 3, Geraint Peter Osborne, Kudos, Pontyclun;

Strictly Hair Up: 1, Sara Williams, Coleg Menai, Bangor, 2, Laura Chandler, Lashoka, Pontypridd, 3, Emma Bennett;

Vamp it up: 1, Nikki Nelson, Pembrokeshire College, 2, Marcus Scott, 3, Stacey Ranson, Coast Hair Studio, St Brides Major;

Cutting with the X-Factor: 1, Marcus Scott, 2, Natasha Dance, Friends, Newport, 3, Stacey Ranson;

Red Carpet Make-up: 1, Leila Hanford, Coleg Gwent, 2, Katie Thomas, NuYu, Milford Haven, 3, Rhoslyn Phillips, Ystrad Mynach College.

YMCA's search
for local talent!

THE Barry YMCA is working in partnership with It's My Shout and BBC Wales to produce a film to be screened on BBC Wales.

It is now seeking help with set design, catering, hair and make-up, producing, sound recording, lighting, locations, composition and photography; also assistant directors, camera operators,

All ages and abilities are welcome to apply.

The first casting session is being held at Barry YMCA today (May 24) from 4pm.

Further information can be obtained from the Barry YMCA, on 01446 724000, or email mike@dmedigital.co.uk



Rebecca Watkins (second from right) of USTU salon, Porthcawl, and her models, receives the Cut it like Essex award from Gemma Amura (left) from Paul Mitchell, watched by ISA Training's managing director Shirley Davis-Fox (right) at Salon Cymru.

New Operations
Director for
Cardiff Airport

CARDIFF Airport has announced the appointment of **Debra Barber** as its new Operations Director.

A spokesperson stated that she had a successful career with the RAF, having spent ten years working in and around RAF airfields as an air traffic controller, before retiring as Group Captain and Air Traffic Management Force Commander, responsible for all RAF air traffic units in the UK and around the world.

She played a leading role in the commercial development and expansion of Basrah International Airport in Iraq.

She also had command responsibilities for the military element of the En Route Air Traffic Control Centre

at Swanwick in Hampshire, was directly involved in the UK response to the volcanic ash crisis in 2010, and represented the military air traffic management organisation during preparations for the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

"I am absolutely delighted to join Cardiff Airport at this important time in its history," Debra said.

"Having visited Wales many times during my career - including many visits to RAF Valley in Anglesey and to nearby St Athan, I look forward now to exploring the beautiful countryside in south Wales, and to becoming an integral part of the community," she said.

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Out and About with The GEM

Christian entertainer set to light up weekend

THE Methodist Churches in The Vale of Glamorgan are putting on a great weekend for children and adults on May 26-27.

John Hardwick is a Christian singer/songwriter, story teller, juggler and author. He does work in schools, and all-age presentations and worship at many of the big national Christian events.

On the Saturday morning, he will be at Saint John Methodist Church, Barry Island from 9.30am. He will lead a 'creative communication' workshop for adults only.

Anyone from local Christian churches who works with children, is welcome to come along. Visit: www.johnhardwick.org.uk

On Sunday afternoon, the big event for children is 'John Hardwick's Cool and Crazy Praise Party' at The Gathering Place Methodist Church and Community Centre, Saint Athan, from 3.30pm-5.30pm (for children aged four-11).

All children must have adult supervision. The event is free, donations for refreshments are welcome. Please register your interest with the ministers. On Sunday May 27, John will lead an all-age worship at The Gathering Place, from 10.30am-11.30am. All welcome.

For more information and to confirm attendance, contact 01446 406262, or: deacon-sam@live.co.uk.

Deacon Sam and Rev Peter Taylor

To the Woods!

TO THE WOODS' fairy tale exhibition will be staged at St Donat's Art Centre, in association with the Beyond the Border storytelling festival, from June 6-July 1.

It will feature work inspired by the Brothers Grimm's fairytales, to mark the bicentenary of their first publication.

Valeways walks

ON Wednesday (May 23) a Nordic walking taster, was led by Howell Isaac (of Age Cymru) from Southerndown.

Next Tuesday, May 29 at 1.30pm, there is a 'Woodland Trail to Lake, at Welsh St Donats, starting from Hensol Forest car park (OS 032768).

Transition meets

TRANSITION Llantwit is holding a meeting at 7.30pm today (May 24) at The Heritage Centre, Llantwit Major Town Hall.

For more details, contact us at: transition.llantwit@googlemail.com.

Race night

FRIDAY, May 25, will see Barry Rugby Club continue their fundraising events for their 125th anniversary which begins in September.

A race night will begin at 7.30pm with the first race at 8pm. Entry is £2, payable at the door.

Ken Chow will also be on hand with some

culinary expertise and all proceeds will go towards supporting events for next season.

Lib-dem advice

WELSH Lib-Dem AM for south Wales West, Peter Black, will be holding an advice surgery on Friday, May 25 in Maesteg Library from 2pm-3pm.

No appointment is necessary.

Airship flight

THE Rhoseo and District History Society presents a talk by Mike Wilcock, on the Goodyear airship flight from Rhoseo to Cardiff city centre, this Friday, May 25, at 7.30pm in the rear hall of Rhoseo Community Centre, Stewart Road.

Tickets at the door, £1 per adult; 50p per child (under 16).

Spring fayre

THE spring fayre for The Children's Society will be held on Saturday, May 26 at The Paget Rooms, Penarth, from 10am-12 noon.

The stalls are varied - homemade cakes/pre-serves/plants/books/gifts/cards/mystery parcels and raffle. Admission

50p, includes coffee/tea/biscuits. Contact 029 20703547.

Beach clean

FRIENDS of Barry Beaches will be holding their next beach clean on Sunday, May 27, at Whitmore Bay, Barry Island, meeting by Marco's cafe at the usual time of 3pm.

All volunteers, old and young, will be welcome to spend an hour helping to clean the beach.

Litter picking equipment will be provided.

FOBB will be collecting signatures for 'Petition Fish', the Wildlife Trust petition calling on the Government to urgently set up a network of marine protection zones around Britain's coast.

Pentecost service

ALL Saints Church in Victoria Square is holding a family communion service to celebrate Pentecost on Sunday, May 27 at 10am.

All ages welcomed.

Table top sale THERE will be a table top/indoor boot sale at Llantwit Major, Llantwit Major on Sunday May 27, from 9am-1pm to raise money for the National Eisteddfod in Llandow.

Tables, £5 donation, booking essential. Refreshments available. Contact Ros Lewis on 01445 793530.

Public consultation

COMMUNITIES First Partnerships have submitted a joint cluster proposal for areas in need, to the Welsh Government - to extend activities to parts of the Cadoc and Buttrills Ward, Barry.

The public is being asked for its views at a consultation fun day at Barry Memorial Hall on Monday, May 28 from 2pm-6.30pm.

Fun activities include photographs, creche facilities, face painting, Zumba, street dancing, arts and crafts, pottery workshops, cake making and dressmaking.

For further information, contact the Communities First team on 01446 709432, or 01446 732406.

Live music

THE Cerys Pottier Foundation will benefit from live music by the Rachel K Collier Band on Friday June 1 at the Green Dragon Llanclade.

Tickets are £10 per adult or £5 for children under 12, which will include a light supper.

Contact Julie on 01446 781271, or: japroowan@tesco.net for tickets.

Baron Cohen 'Dictates' laughter in shock comedy

HAVING shocked and amused in equal measure with *Borat* and *Bruno*, Sacha Baron Cohen has shown there is more to him than just shock tactics with roles in the likes of *Sweeney Todd* and *Hugo*.

However, Baron Cohen's latest sees him mine a similar comedic vein to his previous characters in *The Dictator*.

Baron Cohen plays an oppressive, democracy-hating dictator named General Aladeen; when Aladeen travels to America to speak to the UN he is kidnapped and replaced by a lookalike.

Stripped of his beard and his identity, Aladeen, with the help of Zoe (Anna Faris) must try and stop his double passing through laws that will ruin his dictatorship...

If you've seen *Borat* or *Bruno*, you'll have a pretty good idea of what *The Dictator* will offer. As skilled a comedian as Sacha Baron Cohen is, you can be sure that biting satire and clever digs at PC society will hidden under gags that are coarse and in bad taste.

The Dictator doesn't alter from this formula, but in his pantheon of filmic characters, it sits somewhere between *Borat* and *Bruno*, the film lacking the same innocence as the former, but thankfully eschewing the knowing cynicism of the latter.

The fact that Baron Cohen made this film because he found Colonel Gaddafi funny gives you some idea of his comedic sensibility, and the humour continues in that vein; the jokes sometimes test the boundaries of taste, pushing the sort of buttons that extreme elements of society will no doubt decry; but the humour also makes several salient points about how even those who live in a 'free' world are in some ways dictated to without really noticing.

While of questionable taste, there is a surreal tint to the humour, infused with that unique strand of British comedy that travels so well, shades of Python-esque absurdity sitting side by side with childbirth gags that will make even the

SCREEN TALK



by GARETH JMIESON

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most liberal of people gnaw on their hands.

At the centre of it all is a wonderful turn by Baron Cohen, who plays Waladeen as a man so ingrained into his world and having every whim catered for that anything he does and asks for is made possible (even trysts with Hollywood's biggest names!).

The character lacks much comedic potential outside of this, so placing Waladeen on the outside looking in (a thread in all Baron Cohen's characters) means that the maximum comic mileage can be wrought out - and it is.

Working with regular director, *Carb Your Enthusiasm* veteran Larry Charles, the pair aim and hit the majority of their targets, Charles bringing the disparate

elements of the film and making it a cohesive and, by and large, satisfying whole.

You can imagine how freewheeling Baron Cohen must be (as evidenced by the end credits gag reel) so Charles deserves a lot of credit for wrangling everything together, shooting the film through naturally and mining the comedy for what it is worth.

As much as Baron Cohen dominates proceedings, there is still room for the likes of Anna Faris, who as the love interest takes a one-dimensional character and, along with Baron Cohen moulds it into something more memorable.

The likes of Ben Kingsley, Jason Mantzoukas, plus cameos from the likes of Garry Shandling, Kathryn Hahn and Bobby Lee, all bring a little something to the table.

But the main imprint is that of Baron Cohen, and it is humour and performance that dominates the film. If you can't handle his brand of comedy, then *The Dictator* isn't for you, but if you love it, then this film will be right up your street.

VERDICT: Sitting somewhere between *Borat* and *Bruno*, *The Dictator* nonetheless gives your funny bone quite a work-out, the humour shocking and close to the bone but clever and satirical at the same time. Sacha Baron Cohen leads from the front with a winning performance, making *The Dictator* quite the bad taste comedy!

SEE THIS IF YOU LIKED: *Borat* (2006), *Bruno* (2009).

Ty Hafan winners

THE following are winning numbers in the Ty Hafan Crackerjackpot lottery draw number D723.

● £2,000: 698998.
● The rollover, which now stands at £11,000, was not won this week.
● £10: 416468, 439206, 914642, 848893, 223636, 640215, 437502, 623045, 891223, 537922, 315256, 702473, 918642, 571916, 579493, 511842, 179551, 765543, 185188, 919165.

● £5: 153201, 925793, 481366, 689791, 874352, 622736, 719329, 930069, 616163, 241112, 597464,

786012, 320398, 216276, 342788, 568520, 417887, 749573, 596302, 916668, 552352, 205646, 873199, 766073, 472532, 617001, 776809, 354580, 668872, 753649, 745849, 288878, 395363, 340464, 952855, 288650, 887947, 209508, 861242, 159659, 169196, 432303, 264734, 269302, 721459, 625629, 864825, 583652, 608120, 793253, 625570, 751373, 731916, 102285, 152020, 238008, 507451, 493973, 631045, 588753.

The GEM cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions contained in the above.

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A lovely day out for all the family. Open Saturday, Sunday and Monday (June 2, 3, 4); admission £3, 10am-5pm.

Llanmaes Gardens,

Llanmaes, Llantwit Major, CF61 2XR

LLANMAES, a mile from Llantwit Major, is a pretty village with attractive village green, with stream running through, and a 13th century church.

Old Froglands is an historic farmhouse, with streams and woodland areas linked by bridges.

Ducks swim and chickens roam free. The vegetable plot is now productive.

Plantings are varied with interesting foliage. **Mehfin** is a modern house with cottage garden plantings and scented roses.

Butterflies and insects are attracted to plants in the meadow area where mown paths guide you around the vegetable plot and trees.

Open Sunday June 3, admission £4, 11am-5pm.

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VALE MP's VIEWPOINT

'EISTEDDFOD WILL PUT VALE ON MAP FOR YEARS TO COME'

LLANDOW is in the spotlight this week – for two very different reasons.

Later this week, work will start on the site of the National Eisteddfod 2012 in the western Vale.

The site preparation however, follows closely on the heels of a public inquiry into the planning application for exploration of shale gas at a site on the Llandow Business Park.

I was absolutely delighted when the brilliant news broke that the National Eisteddfod was coming to the Vale this August.

Since my childhood, I've been going to the Eisteddfod regularly, and have enjoyed hours of wandering the Maes (the site where the festival is held), meeting old friends, and of course listening to the competitions and the concerts.

The Eisteddfod is a very special event that will attract up to 160,000 visitors to the Vale, acting as a shop window for economic investments in general and tourism in the Vale.

The Eisteddfod can generate

up to £6-8 million to the host area each year, which is great news for local businesses.

Recent figures show that 11.2 per cent of people living in the Vale are employed in the tourism and hospitality sectors, with many more living further afield by working in the Vale.

Ironically, then, that during the same week work starts on the Eisteddfod site, we also have the public inquiry into the planning application for exploration for shale gas.

Although we won't know the outcome of the inquiry by the time you read this article, I will have made my representation to the Planning Inspector at the inquiry in Barry.

My very real concerns are that the potential discovery of shale gas will most certainly go against the aspirations we share for the communities of the Vale to live, work and welcome tourists to such a beautiful part of Wales.

It's important to use the Eisteddfod as an opportunity to bring together the traditions of the Vale as



Vale Conservative MP Alun Cairns reports to GEM readers

well – the native Welsh speakers, English-language areas, and people who have moved here to live.

The Vale is a unique place, combining the beauty of the rural areas and the legacy of the stunning coastline, with our industrial history of coal exporting and the traditional miners' holidays to Barry Island in the sum-

mer. I was greatly encouraged to hear that many local businesses have already committed to supporting the Eisteddfod through sponsorship – from Lafarge in Aberthaw, to SiteServe in Llandow and Harris Pye Marine in Barry.

Fundraising within local communities right across the Vale has been a huge challenge for all involved, but well worth the effort as targets are being met.

Only last Saturday, I supported the popular and successful Hogaroc event in Penllyn as their event auctioneer.

There has been a kaleidoscope of events from sporting days out, themed evenings, fish and chip suppers and dog shows, to name but a few, which have helped raise essential funds.

I'd urge local traders and tourism providers to make sure that they plan ahead, to maximise all the opportunities presented by this week-long event.

I will also be pressing the local authority to ensure that all areas and towns around the Maes location are ship-shape

and looking their best. If you'd like to find out more about the opportunities available from stalls and bunting to tickets, you can contact the Eisteddfod office on 0845 4090 300.

With such an influx of visitors to the area it's vital that the significant increase in traffic is well-managed.

I know that the organisers and local authority officers have been working hard over the past few months to lessen any disruption to locals and visitors alike.

I would, however, urge the planners to consult with local farmers and businesses based in the western Vale, regarding their traffic plans and routes.

I'm really looking forward to a fantastic and unforgettable Eisteddfod this year.

It really needs to be, of course, to ensure the legacy of the festival in our community.

I'm convinced that the Eisteddfod will put the Vale on the map, not only in 2012, but for many years to come.

'Worn by you, loved by us' campaign

THE Tenovus cancer charity recently launched the campaign 'worn by you, loved by us' to encourage people to donate their unwanted clothes to their local Tenovus charity shop.

The cause supports local cancer patients and the charity stressed that any item, whether it is high street or high end fashion, helps to fund the charity's work.

Liz Rawlins, campaign manager at Tenovus, explained: "Every single item donated to any one of our shops raises vital funds that enable us to support cancer patients and their families across Wales."

"One bag of clothing makes on average £20."

That £20 means we can continue to provide services such as treating people closer to home with our mobile cancer support unit, bereavement counselling and keeping our freephone cancer support line open seven days a week.

Local people can get involved with 'worn by you, loved by us' by taking along unwanted items to your local Tenovus shops:

60 Holton Road, Barry, CF63 4HE.
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Ewenny/Ewenny Road/Five Bells Road/Nolton Street profile



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AS SEEN ON T.V.

Carrying a Torch for the Bridgend entrepreneurs (WHO OFFER SOMETHING SPECIAL TO SHOPPERS)

WHEN it comes to deciding where to shop in Bridgend, there is a temptation to think of the town's central area, and then to look at the surrounding trading estates and retail parks.

That is often a mistake, and it is cer-

tainly the case for people approaching Bridgend from the Ewenny area via Nolton Street.

Anyone whose mind is already made up will miss a considerable amount of retail activity, and a wide range of goods and services may pass un-noticed.

The situation is probably exacerbated

in the evening, where Nolton Street can appear to be a collection of take-aways – but nothing could be further from the truth.

Wander up Nolton Street, and then on to Ewenny Road and Five Bells Road and you will find opticians, a travel agent, boutiques, fashion accessories, gift shops, cafes, jewellery shops, pharmacists, a dental practice, public houses, hairdressers, a delicatessen, furniture outlets, a cycle shop, sweet shop, a upvc window supplier and even a shop selling nothing but beads!

What's more, the eating establishments are by no means all take-aways.

RELAXING MEAL

There are plenty of places to sit down and have a relaxed meal.

The street is also a home for social welfare organisations such as Mental Health matters and DASH, and the Bridgend MP, Madeleine Moon, has her constituency office in Nolton Street, too.

The area will cer-

tainly be noticed this coming Saturday (May 26) because it is one of a only a few stretches in Bridgend county borough where the Olympic torch will pass on foot (as opposed to in a bus!)

TORCH ROUTE

Timings released by the local authority indicate that it should start its journey along Derwen Road and then Nolton Street at 2.40pm.

The torch bearers will then turn right at the traffic lights onto Cowbridge Road, before heading left to Bryntirion and Laleston.

Julian Gittings of Nolton Antiques said that Nolton Street was a good choice for the torch's journey.

He said: "Nolton comes from the Roman for 'old town' and this is the original Bridgend shopping area."

One new business is 'Ella Rileys' an old-fashioned sweet shop – recently repainted in bright pink, which was hardly the right colour for the previous tenant, the Army Recruitment unit!

In this case, the shop is just the tip of the iceberg, because the USP of this business is that they are manufacturing a much-loved old sweet – Riley's Toffee Rolls – which went out of production years ago.

However, the husband and wife team of Steve and Freya Bletsoe discovered the recipe about 10 years ago and started making the toffee rolls.

About six months ago they moved to south Wales and currently wholesale the product to customers around the UK.

Chris Heyns runs Wild About Beads with his wife Caroline, and they have been trading in Ewenny Road for three years.

Chris said that the key to being as successful as they had was in offering personal service and a huge range of stock. He added: "Sometimes, people come in and are just overwhelmed by the choice."

"As a result, we have customers who come from a wide area – from Barry to Carmarthen."

Of course, there

are quite a number of businesses that ply their trade as Ewenny Road makes its way out of town.

Christopher Designs decided two years ago to move from Llandow to a new unit on the Ogmore Road. 'EXCELLENT PLACE'

The owner, Christopher Rowbottom, told The GEM that customers enjoyed combining a visit to the store with a trip to the countryside.

"He said: "We traded in Llandow for more than 20 years, but this is an excellent place to do business."

Shoppers can get lazy. They get in the car and travel a well-worn path to their usual haunt.

Little do they realise that there are vibrant, innovative businesses out there offering personal service – and that something extra!

Bridgend has more than its fair share of keen entrepreneurs who have something different to offer.

It's just a case of taking time to look.

PHILIP IRWIN



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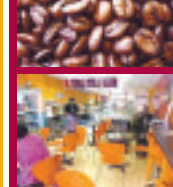


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60 years on, the coronation remembered

ON Saturday, June 2, between 10am and 4pm, the Cowbridge Museum, located in Cowbridge Town Hall, will be celebrating the Diamond Jubilee with a special exhibition.

The items on show include a collection of 60-year-old newspapers reporting the coronation with photographs of the ceremony and of the royal family; while other sections relate to the state coach and the

coronation gown.

There are many souvenirs of royal events from the last century, and you can learn about Cowbridge's unique link with the Queen - thanks to a local thatcher.

This exhibition is in addition to the permanent collection items of local historical interest. The museum will be open on the first and third Saturdays of the month over the summer.

New volunteers are always welcome. If you are interested in helping, contact David Pierce on 01446 773248.

'Cowbridge on Run' returns!

LAST year's 'Men on the Run' event in Cowbridge was a huge success and raised thousands of pounds for cancer research.

Now a second event is going to take place. Organiser, Anne Birt, told THE GEM: "Last year was a great success and we ultimately made in excess of £4,000, which for a first effort I thought was tremendous!"

"We are currently organising the second annual run but this time it is 'Cowbridge on the Run' as many females have expressed the wish to compete!"

"The event takes place at the rugby club on Sunday, July 1."

Look out next week in THE GEM for full details of how people can get involved.

'Cut down on waste during the Jubilee'

RESIDENTS are being urged to think how they can make the most of their food when organising Queen's Diamond Jubilee celebrations this June with the 'Love Food Hate Waste' campaign.

The 'Big Jubilee Lunch' is part of the Diamond Jubilee programme of events on Sunday June 3, led by the Eden Project and funded by the Lottery. The aim is to encourage neighbourhoods to come together in the garden or street to share lunch and a few hours of community, friendship and fun, whilst cutting down on household waste at the same time.

A spokesperson

explained: "We waste over seven million tonnes and £12 billion worth of good food and drink every year in the UK just from our homes, but with a little planning, together with a few cool boxes and supply of freezer packs, it's easy to be well equipped for keeping food safe, fresh and tasty for longer."

For more information on the campaign, visit the 'Love Food Hate Waste' website: <http://www.lovefood-hatewaste.com>, or visit 'The Big Jubilee Lunch' website at: <http://www.the-bigjubileelunch.com/> to offer support on how best to reduce the amount of food waste which is produced as a result of the celebrations.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Art critique

ON May 31, Cowbridge Art Society will hold a critique of members' paintings by Leslie Dearn, a full time artist, who has exhibited throughout south Wales and specialises in seascapes and people, from figure, life and nude drawing to party people and dancers.

She is also a freelance arts coordinator delivering creative workshops, life drawing classes, drawing courses, art talks and organising arts events.

The society meets at the Old Hall, High Street, Cowbridge (7pm-9pm) and for a small fee visitors are most welcome.

For further details, see: www.thecowbridgeartsociety.com.

GEM winners

THE following were GEM winners in our recent Beyond the Border competition.

Mark Stevens of Barry and Helen Hobrough of Barry each won a family ticket.

Tony Francis, Bridgend, and Bethan James, Cowbridge, each won a pair of adult evening tickets for the St Donats event.

Congratulations! Watch out for more exciting competitions in THE GEM.

Cowbridge creative writing competition

THE Cowbridge creative writing competition award winners have been announced:

RESULTS

Poetry - Primary school entries:

First prize awarded to Ben Jones (11) from Llansannor Church in Wales Primary. Ben's poem on the theme of An Apology wrote a poem entitled *Sorry Teacher*.

Second prize awarded to Meghan McDonald (9) from Llanilltud Fawr Primary. Meghan wrote about the theme of My Shadow and called her poem *His Only Friend*.

Third prize awarded to Freya Evans (10) from Llancafnant Primary. Freya also chose the theme of My Shadow and she called her poem *Me and My Shadow*.

Highly-commended runner-up was Erin Presley (7) from St Bride's Major Primary. Erin chose the Spell theme and called her poem *Dimpley Dappely Dozee Puff*. Her poem was very colourful with some lovely drawings adding to the effect.

A school prize was awarded to Llansannor Church in Wales Primary

School as a mark of recognition for their outstanding enthusiasm and the quality of their poems.

Descriptive/imaginative writing - secondary schools:

First prize awarded to Ruth David (15) from Cowbridge Comprehensive School. Ruth's essay on *The Sky at Night* was outstanding. Her use and control of language were well used in her imaginative and descriptive writing.

Second prize awarded to Hannah Lee (14) from Cowbridge Comprehensive School. Hannah also wrote on *The Sky at Night* Again the use of language and the quality of the writing were both excellent.

Third prize awarded to Nia Wornham Price (14) from Cowbridge Comprehensive School. Nia used the title *If I could choose I'd like to be...* to write a good story with a significant twist at the end.

Special mentions

go to: Daniel Marshall (12) from Cowbridge Comprehensive who wrote about *A Day in the Life of My Mum* with lively enthusiasm and

with some thoughtful observations.

And to Harrison Pritchard (14) also from Cowbridge Comprehensive who also wrote on the topic of *If I could choose to be...*

Harrison wrote from the point of view of a USSR soldier during World War II. His writing was so convincing that he made his account totally believable and movingly poignant.

The adult category was an introductory chapter to a short story:

First prize awarded to Peter Sain ley Berry of Llanquian House, Cowbridge. His introductory chapter, entitled *'The Next Time'*, was an outstanding contribution to the excellent standard of narrative writing which characterised the spirit of the competition.

The wonderful setting of rural France was the background to an inspira-

tional piece of writing.

Second prize was awarded to Candida Niman of Eastfield Cottage, Cowbridge. Her introductory chapter, entitled *'Saul'* was an extremely sensitive narrative which touched upon many aspects of our recent past.

Joint third prizes are awarded to Stanley Salmons of Frondeg Hall, Wrexham and William Hainsley Hunt of Palalwyf Avenue, Pontyclun.

Stanley Salmons introduced his writing with a gripping title *'The Tomb'*, and his chapter lived up to any expectations of excitement and interest.

William Hunt titled his chapter *'Simulator'* and captivated his reader in intensely graphic descriptions of ordinary thrill seeking situations.

Vivienne Charlton

Jubilicious day at Y Bont Faen school!

THE Diamond Jubilee was celebrated in style at Y Bont Faen School this week. The school has been decked in bunting - both inside and out.

Everyone attended school either dressed as a famous person from The Queen's reign or dressed in red, white and blue outfits.

As the event coincided with the school photograph day, we decided to ensure this truly would be a day to remember, and with the help of our friends at Colorfoto, it was a very special occasion.

Staff and children took part in the fun and we are sure our school photographs are going to be something to treasure and keep.

The children took part in a Jubilee street party lunch - which had a mixture of traditional street party favourites, including jam sandwiches, ham sandwiches, cakes, crisps and, of course, the obligatory cocktail sausages.

To wrap up our day, the children and staff came together for a special award assembly. The school had taken part in a competition held by the Royal Mint, which asked the children to design a logo or motif for the Jubilee.

One pupil, Ffion, won first prize in the competition, and the Royal Mint had some very exciting



Ffion with one of her prizes from the Royal Mint.

and valuable gifts for her. She was presented with a selection of the Olympic 50 pence pieces - which depict different disciplines within the Olympic games; a selection of £5 coins to celebrate the Olympics and Paralympics; celebration coins for the Jubilee and, to top it off, three extra special 'proof' coins depicting the different ideals of 'Britishness'.

It didn't end there! As Ffion has won a prize, the Royal Mint presented the entire year-6 class with an Olympic 50 pence piece and Queen's Jubilee medal in a presentation gift box!

The school presented every child and staff member with a Queen's Jubilee medal to help them remember this extra special day. The Y Bont Faen family would like to thank the Royal Mint and Mr Heald for their help in acquiring the medals. MG

LLANTWIT MAJOR CRAFT & GIFT FAIRS

Don't forget the next event for lovely crafts and yummy snacks

Saturday 26th May - Llantonian Hall (behind the library) From 10am - 3pm

Enquiries, contact Peta Shields
Email: peta@peartreecott.co.uk

Another outstanding concert from Cowbridge male choir

Photographs by MIKE WILCOCK



THE Cowbridge Male Voice Choir held its annual concert at the Cowbridge Leisure Centre on Saturday, May 19.

Unsurprisingly, given the reputation of the choir, there was a capacity audience.

The skilled and humorous compere for the evening was choir member Jon Wilks. He reminded us that the majority of the choir's public performances are in support of charitable causes.

During the last year, he said, the choir had raised £20,000 for various charities and, since its inception, it has raised approximately half a million pounds.

The choice of music prepared for the choir to perform by the musical director, Shelley Thomas-Brown and the accompanist, Sandra Williams, was eclectic and inspirational.

The choir's excellent performance of these

pieces was enthusiastically applauded by the audience. (I am convinced that the applause for my favourite 'Morte Criste' was especially loud!)

The talent displayed during the evening by the choir, the musical director and the accompanist was remarkable.

An added bonus to the evening was the excellent performance of Adam J Gilbert, one of the country's most promising young baritones.

His talent and versatility has already won him much acclaim and he no doubt has a very exciting future ahead of him. His accompanist Emma Arscott was also outstanding.

Looking at the faces of the audience and listening to their applause at the end of the concert, there was no doubting the fact that the Cowbridge Male Voice Choir's annual concert was a resounding success.

OLIVIA OBAID

Win a night at the theatre !



DURING this summer of national celebration, theatres across the land have come together to promote the world-class productions taking place at some of their best-loved theatres.

As the famous torch snakes its way around the UK, Theatre Tokens are urging readers to experience a show in their local theatre as part of this summer like no other.

To join in the celebrations Theatre Tokens are offering you the chance to win a night out at the theatre to see a show of your choice.

With 240 venues nationwide there's bound to be something that you'll enjoy, either at your local theatre, or in London's West End.

You can buy Theatre Tokens from selected

branches of WH Smith and Waterstones, participating theatres as well as online at www.theatretokens.com, or over the phone from Tokenline on 0844 887 7878.

Why not make this a summer like no other by entering the competition to win Theatre Tokens to a show of your choice.

To win one of three £50 tokens, just answer this question - how many Theatre Tokens venues are there in the UK: a) 200; b) 240; c) 260?

Send your answers on a postcard, marked 'Theatre Competition', along with your name, address and contact telephone number, to The Glamorgan GEM, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge, CF71 7EL, no later than Friday June 1.

Judge's decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into. **Good luck!**



ABOVE (left to right): Sandra Williams, Emma Arscott, Adam J Gilbert and Shelley Thomas-Brown.



Some of the civic guests.

DINAS CLUB WELCOMES THE OLYMPIC TORCH



MEMBERS of the Dinas Powys Lawn Tennis Club are planning to welcome the Olympic torch when it comes to the village at about 7am on Saturday (May 26).

They plan to line part of the route and hold up letters spelling out the name of their club, which was founded more than 100 years ago.

The Olympic torch is being carried through Dinas Powys by Rhys Jenkins from Penarth.

It overlooks the common and has 12 courts, a large clubhouse and car park.

The members organise a lively

social programme, which this year includes an Olympian barbecue and fun events on July 21, to mark the start of the Olympics.

After their early start on Saturday, the tennis players will have breakfast at the club and then enjoy some mini Olympic games.

INDOOR BOOT SALE
THERE will be an indoor boot sale on Saturday, May 26, at St Athan Community Centre.

Sellers 12pm; public 1pm-4pm; hire a table, £4. Contact Carol on 01446 730100, or Ann on 01446 354179.

Spitfire wings its way back for Wartime Weekend



A Spitfire on King Square in Barry during World War II

THE Wartime Weekend on Barry Waterfront and Barry Island Station on June 16-17 will see a full-size Spitfire fighter aircraft return to the town.

The Barry at War History Group has been awarded Heritage Lottery Funding to pay for the replica of this iconic aircraft to make its journey from Lytham St Annes.

Spokesman Dr Jonathan Hicks said: "We are very grateful to the Heritage Lottery Fund for providing us with a grant to expand the scope of our Wartime Weekend. This funding means we can now pay tribute to the brave men and women of the RAF who served this country so valiantly throughout the Second World War."

"The full-size Spitfire will be the centrepiece of our WW2 RAF display. The Battle of Britain Pilots re-enactment group will be building a dispersal hut on the Hood Road site to complement the Spitfire, and for the first time in many years, the local public will be able to see a re-enactment of a Battle of Britain airfield."

"Barry and Penarth Air Cadets will also be in attendance and it will be a marvellous opportunity for them to sit in such an historic aircraft."

"During WW2 a real Spitfire was placed on King Square in Barry as part of a wartime fundraising drive and two plaques were later presented to the town. There was even a Spitfire named 'The Borough of Barry'."

During the Second World War, it was common place for individuals, towns, countries or representative groups of like minded people to 'buy' a piece of military hardware - fighter planes, bombers, tanks and so on.

The Ministry of War production set a nominal price for each type of equipment, which was less than the true production cost - but low enough to encourage take up of the idea, for morale purposes.



On June 7, 1943, a letter from the Minister of Aircraft production, Sir Stafford Cripps was received by the town clerk acknowledging a cheque for £5,112.

A photograph appeared in the local press on Friday, September 24, 1943, depicting the Borough of Barry Spitfire (a Mark Vb, serial W3234).

The Spitfire was presented to 611 (West Lancashire) Squadron Royal Auxiliary Air Force. It is understood that the Spitfire survived the war and at the end of hostilities it was 'Struck off Charge' (SOC) 27-9-45, after which it was scrapped.

Battle of Britain Pilots

is a Wiltshire based RAF re-enactment team who keep the spirit of The Few and the Battle of Britain alive for future generations.

They have designed and built an RAF 1940s Dispersal Hut which is completely kitted out inside as it would have looked in the summer of 1940, with all the equipment and personal kit of a Spitfire pilot.

Their team consists of pilots, ground-crew, WAAFs and female mechanics.

Sponsors wishing to make a donation towards the costs of staging the Wartime Weekend should contact Dr Jonathan Hicks on 07708 255295.

Tory MP voices support for local police officers

THE Home Secretary, Theresa May, recently received a frosty reception at the Police Federation Conference - over the 20 per cent budget cuts and proposed reforms - and Vale Conservative MP, Alun Cairns, says he has now written to her with his own concerns.

Mr Cairns said: "I met the Police Federation Officer in Barry last month, and was pleased to meet a number of local officers based in the Vale, who attended the march."

"I have already raised their concerns with the Home Secretary, and will continue to keep up my dialogue with local officers to ensure that their issues are heard and fed into the consultation process following the Winsor Report."

"Policing is an essential public service, and I think that police officers should continue to be rewarded for the exceptional job they do."

Hundreds of police officers from the Vale joined the demonstration

The GEM is proud to be an official partner of the 2012 National Eisteddfod in the Vale of Glamorgan
 Mae'r GEM yn falch o fod yn un o bartneriaid swyddogol Eisteddfod Genedlaethol Bro Morgannwg, 2012

SUPPER AT THE CASTLE

A wealth of culinary talent comes to Fonmon!

OVER 100 guests were recently treated to a gourmet dining experience prepared by two of London's most celebrated Michelin-starred chefs Sian Wyn Owen, head chef at the River Cafe and Chris Gillard, head chef at St John, Smithfield.

Hosted in the beautiful setting of Fonmon Castle, guests enjoyed a first class, three-course meal and entertainment to raise money for the National Eisteddfod of

Wales, to be held in the Vale this August.

Both Sian and Chris, originally from Cowbridge, prepared a feast of dishes from *Prosciutto di San Danielle* and *Finnochiata*, *Mozzarella di Bufala* to slow roast lamb shoulders with braised fennel and butter beans, Aioli and potatoes.

Canapés and cocktails were prepared by the highly-acclaimed Joe Rowson, head chef of one of Cowbridge's finest restaurants, Arboreal.

The event, co-hosted by singer Shân Cothi



and Stifyn Parri, TV presenter, featured the award winning Côr Dydd and jazz from DJ Andy Powell.

Elena Griffin, event organiser, said: "It was a fabulous evening which raised almost £5,000 for the Eisteddfod."

Super yn y Castell – Gwledd o dalent coginio yn dod i Gastell Fonmon!

DAETH dros 100 o westeion i Gastell Fonmon dros y penwythnos i fwynhau gwledd o fwyd wedi ei baratoi gan dau o gogyddion disglair Llundain sef Sian Wyn Owen, prif

gogydd y River Cafe a Chris Gillard, prif gogydd St John, Smithfield – y ddau yn ddeiliad seren Michelin.

Paratowyd pryd tri chwrs gan Sian a Chris, y ddau yn enedigol o'r Bontfaen, ar gyfer y gwesteion gyda Canapés a choctels wedi eu paratoi gan Joe Rowson, prif gogydd bwyty Arboreal yn y Bontfaen.

Gyda'r gantores Shân Cothi a'r cyflwynydd Stifyn Parri yn cyflwyno'r noson cafwyd perfformiadau gwfreiddiol gan Gôr Dydd a Andy Powell ac yn ôl Elena Griffin, trefnidd y noson: "mi oedd o'n noson wych llwyddodd i godi bron £5,000 i'r Eisteddfod."

Welsh phrase of the week/Ymadrodd yr wythnos:

"Dwi'n dy garu di!" (Dween dugh gary dee!), which means: 'I love you!' SIONED EDWARDS

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Jubilee for the Queen - and the whole of Britain

In a few days' time, the United Kingdom will be celebrating the Diamond Jubilee - marking the Queen's reign of 60 years.

The centrepiece of the celebrations takes place in a few days time - from Saturday, June 2 to Tuesday, June 5.

It is not the first time a British monarch has

reached the illustrious milestone. The first Diamond Jubilee was celebrated by Queen Victoria in 1897.

Queen Elizabeth II acceded to the throne on February 6, 1952.

As Princess Elizabeth, she was on a royal tour of Kenya and staying at 'Treetops', a treehouse in Kenya's Aberdare National Park, when the course of British history was changed.

News reached the

royal party that George VI had died in his sleep, and it led to the poetic line 'She went up the tree a Princess and came down a Queen'.

The tour was abandoned and the Princess flew back to Britain, to be greeted by the Prime Minister, Winston Churchill.

In our hectic 21st century age, it seems astonishing that the Queen's coronation did not take place for more than a

year. She was crowned on June 2, 1953 at Westminster Abbey.

Since that time, the Queen has honoured her coronation oath - serving not just the people of the United Kingdom, but also serving 16 other Commonwealth countries as head of state.

Silver and Golden Jubilees were held in 1977 and 2002 respectively.

Now we are approaching the central weekend of the Diamond Jubilee celebrations. So what is planned?

On Saturday, June 2 the Queen will join racegoers on the Epsom Downs for the Derby.

The next day, June 3, the 'Big Jubilee Lunch' event takes place. Building on the already popular Big Lunch initiative, people are encouraged to share lunch with neighbours and friends as part of the Diamond Jubilee celebrations.

It may take the form of a traditional street party, or a picnic lunch in small or larger groups. The event is being organised by The Big Lunch and details are available



Shops in Barry - such as Dr Bob's in High Street - are already getting the bunting and displays out in preparation for the Jubilee.

online at www.the-biglunch.com/.

The Thames Diamond Jubilee Pageant takes place on the Thames and consists of up to 1,000 boats assembled from across the UK, the Commonwealth and around the world.

The Queen will travel in the Royal Barge which will lead the flotilla. On Monday, June 4, there is a BBC concert at Buckingham Palace, and the line-up includes Jessie J, JLS, Sir Elton John, Sir Tom Jones and Sir Paul McCartney.

The concert will take place in front of the palace, with the stage around the Victoria Monument and there will be seating for up to 20,000 people. Late in the evening, between 10pm and 10.30pm, Jubilee beacons will be lit across the country. The Queen will light the National Beacon in central London. On Tuesday, June 5, a service of thanksgiving and carriage procession takes place. The service is being held at St Paul's Cathedral. Commonwealth nations are also holding their own Jubilee events.

Jubilee street parties in the Bridgend borough

JUBILEE street parties will take place in Bridgend county borough as follows:

Aldenhams Road, Porthcawl (from 1-17 Aldenhams Road) on June 4; Bristol Street, Aberkenfig (from 1-14 Bristol Street) on June 4; Brynglas Terrace, Caerau (from 1-25 Brynglas Terrace) on June 4; Caer Cynffig, North Cornelly (from 1-

25 Caer Cynffig) on June 5; Caer Wetrall, Kenfig Hill (from 1-11, Caer Wetrall) on June 4; Craiglas, Llangeinor (from 1-38, Craiglas) on June 2; De Clare Close, Porthcawl (from 6-14, De Clare Close) on June 5; De Londres Close, Porthcawl (from 1-16, De Londres Close) on June 3 or 4; Esplanade Avenue, Porthcawl (from junction of Blundell Avenue to Pavillion Court access) on June 4; Ffynnon Wen, North Cornelly (from cul-de-sac from 21-51 Ffynnon Wen) on June 4; Grove Road, Bridgend (from 10-84 Grove Road) on June 3; Heol West Plas, Coity (from junction of

Heol yr Eglwys to junction of Heol yr Eglwys) on June 3 or 4; Lewis Avenue, Bridgend (from 1-13 Lewis Avenue) on June 5; Llwyn Bedw, Pencoe (from 5-17 Llwyn Bedw) on June 4; Mayfield Avenue, Laleston (grass verge from 21-31 Mayfield Avenue) on June 5; St Christopher's Road, Bridgend (from 46-52 St Christopher's Road) on June 4; St Michaels Road, Porthcawl (17 St Michaels Road) on June 5; The Dell, Bryncethin (from 1-12 The Dell) on June 3; Woodside Avenue, Litchard (whole road) on June 3.

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CELEBRATING 60 YEARS! The Queen's Diamond Jubilee



ABOVE: MAKING BUNTING

Cowbridge set for a right royal party!

NEVER a town to miss an opportunity to celebrate, Cowbridge is planning 'The BIG Cowbridge Community Jubilee Celebration' on Tuesday, June 5 from 1pm until 5pm.

St Hilary and Llanblethian are also holding events later on, so that the celebrations can extend over the whole weekend. Cowbridge Library has a 'design a bunting' competition for 4-12 year olds, which will be displayed in the library, and the closing date for the competition is Saturday (May 26).

As the BIG community event covers three venues, bunting is needed, and several people have started making it!

The venues are The Old Hall Gardens, The Physic Garden and Church Street.

All local groups are invited to take part in the Jubilee celebrations, there are opportunities to have exhibit, run a stall or to showcase musical, or other talents.

We invite people to come along and join in the festivities.

Festivities start at 1pm with stalls in Old Hall grounds, as well

as crafts, crown making, willow garland weaving, hat 'up-cycling,' at 1.30pm there will be a taste of buggy exercise.

At around 2.15pm, there will be maypole dancing to watch and join in.

Throughout the afternoon, there will be music, storytelling and guided walks and talks on the physic garden, town walls, and transition gardens. The bell ringers will ring a full peal of bells from Holy Cross tower.

At 3.15pm, a procession will start, led by trumpets and an alternative king and queen to Church

Street, where the street tea party will commence at 3.30pm. We are very grateful to the residents of Church Street who have given consent to the road closure for the afternoon so that the party can go ahead.

The tea party will be a bring and share event, so please bring a plate of sandwiches and or cake to share and a tea cup!

Entertainment will follow the tea party with music in Church Street.

There is definitely something for everyone and the party will draw to a close at around 5pm, when any

help clearing up will be welcomed!

So to take part in this 'majestic' event! Just turn up on the 5th, it is all free of charge;

but to perform, run a stall or exhibit, please contact Sue on 01446 775947, or email Cowbridge.jubilee@gmail.com

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ENTERTAINMENT

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LIVE BANDS

Saturday 26th May - The SilverBacks 8.30pm
Saturday 2nd June - Dakas 8.30pm
Monday 4th June - Soul Singer Genine 8.30pm
Saturday 9th June - Spellbound 8.30pm
Saturday 16th June - Soul Singer Genine 8.30pm
Saturday 23rd June - Dansette 8.30pm
Saturday 30th June - Smoking Aces 8.30pm

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The Olympic Flame is coming

Join us and line the streets



This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to be part of history and celebrate the Olympic Flame coming to

the Vale of Glamorgan

On Saturday 26th May, between 7am and 8:50am, the Olympic flame will be carried through Dinas Powys, Barry and Barry Island. Come and line the streets and cheer on the local Torchbearers!

It's our moment to shine

london2012.com/olympictorchrelay



facebook.com/london2012torchrelay



twitter.com/london2012



[illegible]

Pupils from Barry Island Primary School will be among those giving the flame a huge welcome this Saturday.

Please note that these timings are estimates and may change slightly on the day.

Following the London 2012 Olympic Torch Relay, two free family events are being held by the Vale of Glamorgan Council to keep the Olympic spirit in full flow for the rest of the day. A free Beach Sports Party will be held at Barry Island between 9am and 2pm where you can see some sports demonstrations such as football freestyling and have a go at a series of Olympic sports including beach volleyball and basketball. Further Olympic sports such as fencing and tennis will also be on offer at a Street Olympics morning on King Square, Barry town centre, between 9am and 12pm. To find out more please call Sarah Jones on 01446 704737.

VALE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS**FULL RESULTS FROM MAY 3**

*** Labour - 22 * Welsh Conservatives - 11 * Independents - 3 * Llantwit First Independents - 4 * Plaid - 6 * UKIP - 1**

BARUC

| | | | | |
|-------------------|----------------|---------------------|-----|---------|
| AVIET-FRASSINELLI | Julie | Welsh Lab | 421 | |
| BAKER | Paul George | Welsh Conservatives | 512 | |
| EVANS | Barrie | Independent | 471 | |
| FOURACRE | Dominic Lewis | Welsh Conservatives | 444 | |
| HODGES | Nicholas Peter | Plaid | 776 | ELECTED |
| TRICKEY | Michael | Welsh Lab | 498 | |
| WILIAM | Steffan Trefor | Plaid | 800 | ELECTED |

BUTTRILLS

| | | | | |
|-----------|-----------------|---------------------|-----|---------|
| ALEXANDER | Margaret | Welsh Lab | 742 | ELECTED |
| BLAKEMAN | Stephen | Plaid | 388 | |
| BURLEY | Thomas Douglas | Welsh Conservatives | 197 | |
| EGAN | Stuart | Welsh Lab | 690 | ELECTED |
| GREEN | David Jonathan | Independent | 138 | |
| HARVEY | Michael Raymond | Welsh Conservatives | 172 | |
| JOHNSON | Ian James | Plaid | 420 | |

CADOC

| | | | | |
|----------|-----------------|---------------------|------|---------|
| BERTIN | Rob | Independent | 387 | |
| BRUCE | Gillian | Welsh Conservatives | 450 | |
| BRYANT | Martin Geoffrey | Plaid | 289 | |
| BUMFORD | Andrew John | Plaid | 271 | |
| BURNS | Dawn Marie | Welsh Conservatives | 259 | |
| DAVIES | Lewis Jordan | Welsh Conservatives | 442 | |
| JOHNSON | Fred | Labour | 1108 | ELECTED |
| MOORE | Anne | Labour | 1143 | ELECTED |
| MOORE | Neil | Labour | 1105 | ELECTED |
| ROWLANDS | Leighton | Welsh Conservatives | 422 | |

CASTLELAND

| | | | | |
|-----------|--------|---------------------|-----|---------|
| DRAKE | Pamela | Labour | 683 | ELECTED |
| ELMORE | Chris | Labour | 718 | ELECTED |
| SHAW | Barry | Plaid | 377 | |
| STOCKDALE | Keith | Plaid | 347 | |
| TRAHERNE | Sophie | Welsh Conservatives | 78 | |
| VIDAL | Sadie | Welsh Conservatives | 83 | |

CORNERSWELL

| | | | | |
|--------|----------|---------------------|-----|---------|
| BIRCH | Rhiannon | Labour | 796 | ELECTED |
| CHICK | Damian | Liberal Democrats | 64 | |
| FRASER | John | Welsh Conservatives | 376 | |
| JAMES | Luke | Plaid | 308 | |
| KING | Peter | Labour | 698 | ELECTED |
| LEWIS | Osian | Plaid | 282 | |
| TURNER | Dorothy | Welsh Conservatives | 350 | |

COURT

| | | | | |
|----------|----------|---------------------|-----|---------|
| BERTIN | Richard | Independent | 487 | ELECTED |
| BROOKS | Bronwen | Labour | 610 | ELECTED |
| KEMP | Harriet | Welsh Conservatives | 116 | |
| KHAN | Wahid | Plaid | 93 | |
| LAWRENCE | John | Plaid | 136 | |
| MORRIS | Brian | Labour | 461 | |
| WIGNALL | Jonathan | Welsh Conservatives | 89 | |

COWBRIDGE

| | | | | |
|------------------|----------|---------------------|------|---------|
| BEAVEN | Camilla | Labour | 920 | |
| COX | Geoffrey | Welsh Conservatives | 1334 | ELECTED |
| JARVIE | Thomas | Welsh Conservatives | 1232 | ELECTED |
| LLEWELLYN-MORGAN | Huw | Plaid | 572 | |
| PARKER | Andrew | Welsh Conservatives | 1188 | ELECTED |
| STILL | Alex | Labour | 854 | |

DINAS POWYS

| | | | | |
|-----------|-------------|---------------------|------|---------|
| DAVIES | Jill | Labour | 602 | |
| DAVIES | Terry | Labour | 537 | |
| DRISCOLL | Vince | Welsh Conservatives | 1122 | |
| FOXWELL | Robert | Welsh Conservatives | 1035 | |
| FRANKS | Christopher | Plaid | 1515 | ELECTED |
| GILLIGAN | Wendy | Labour | 522 | |
| HARTREY | Valerie | Plaid | 1418 | ELECTED |
| HATTON | Keith | Plaid | 1265 | ELECTED |
| ROBERTSON | Andrew | Welsh Conservatives | 970 | |
| STREETER | Nigel | Welsh Conservatives | 1007 | |
| WILLIAMS | Christopher | Plaid | 1223 | ELECTED |
| WILLIAMS | John | Labour | 499 | |

DYFAN

| | | | | |
|----------|------------|---------------------|-----|---------|
| COLLINS | Amelia | Plaid | 135 | |
| CURTIS | Claire | Labour | 839 | ELECTED |
| KEMP | Katherine | Welsh Conservatives | 572 | |
| POWELL | Anthony | Labour | 755 | ELECTED |
| WILLIAMS | Robert | Plaid | 123 | |
| WRIGHT | Marguerita | Welsh Conservatives | 618 | |

GIBBONS DOWN

| | | | | |
|------------|----------|---------------------|-----|---------|
| BROWN | Marilyn | Plaid | 73 | |
| CURTIS | Rob | Labour | 787 | ELECTED |
| DAVIES | Julia | Welsh Conservatives | 102 | |
| HARKUS | Dennis | Independent | 301 | |
| HEATHFIELD | Jeffrey | Independent | 300 | |
| HUGHES | David | Welsh Conservatives | 105 | |
| ROSSER | Ingrid | Plaid | 76 | |
| WILKINSON | Margaret | Labour | 754 | ELECTED |

ILLTYD

| | | | | |
|-----------|-------------|---------------------|-----|---------|
| BALL | David | Plaid | 267 | |
| CHARLES | Janice | Welsh Conservatives | 612 | |
| DONOVAN | John | Independent | 545 | |
| DRYSDALE | John | Labour | 745 | ELECTED |
| HAMILTON | Howard | Labour | 883 | ELECTED |
| HAMPTON | Tony | Welsh Conservatives | 639 | |
| HODGES | Shirley Ann | Plaid | 226 | |
| LONGSTAFF | Kevin | Plaid | 162 | |
| OSBORNE | James | Independent | 475 | |
| PROBERT | Rhona | Labour | 726 | ELECTED |
| WILLIAMS | Emlyn | Welsh Conservatives | 599 | |

LLANDOUGH

| | | | | |
|---------|--------|---------------------|-----|---------|
| EDMUNDS | Kate | Labour | 374 | ELECTED |
| GRAY | Ben | Welsh Conservatives | 178 | |
| THOMAS | Steven | Plaid | 74 | |

LLANDOW/EWENNY

| | | | | |
|--------------|---------|---------------------|-----|---------|
| BELLIN | Wynford | Plaid | 193 | |
| SILVAN EVANS | Jean | Labour | 219 | |
| THOMAS | Ray | Welsh Conservatives | 577 | ELECTED |

LLANTWIT MAJOR

| | | | | |
|-----------|---------|---------------------|------|---------|
| AUSTIN | Ralph | Welsh Conservatives | 759 | |
| BATCHELOR | Matthew | Labour | 471 | |
| BEECH | Amy | Labour | 502 | |
| CLIFFORD | John | Welsh Conservatives | 813 | |
| DENMAN | Katie | Labour | 411 | |
| DOWNE | Russell | Welsh Conservatives | 544 | |
| GANT | Bob | Welsh Conservatives | 536 | |
| GEARY | Keith | Llantwit First Ind | 1327 | ELECTED |
| HACKER | Eric | Llantwit First Ind | 1603 | ELECTED |
| JOHN | Gwyn | Llantwit First Ind | 2068 | ELECTED |
| PRICE | Graham | Labour | 541 | |
| STEPHENS | Dafydd | Plaid | 269 | |
| WILLIAMS | Edward | Llantwit First Ind | 1490 | ELECTED |

PETERSTON-SUPER-ELY

| | | | | |
|----------|--------|---------------------|-----|---------|
| GILHOOLY | Eileen | Labour | 223 | |
| TRAHERNE | Rhodri | Welsh Conservatives | 653 | ELECTED |

PLYMOUTH

| | | | | |
|------------|---------|---------------------|-----|---------|
| ALEXANDER | Tracey | Labour | 598 | |
| CLUBB | Sandra | Plaid | 202 | |
| ELLIS | David | Liberal Democrats | 153 | |
| JONES | Marc | Plaid | 202 | |
| KELLY OWEN | Maureen | Welsh Conservatives | 939 | ELECTED |
| RAPIER | Philip | Labour | 547 | |
| WILLIAMS | Clive | Welsh Conservatives | 939 | ELECTED |

RHOOSE

| | | | | |
|----------|--------------------|---------------------|-----|---------|
| CLARKE | Philip | Independent | 882 | ELECTED |
| FAULKNER | Damian | Labour | 713 | |
| JAMES | Jeff | Welsh Conservatives | 810 | ELECTED |
| KEMP | Gordon Christopher | Welsh Conservatives | 727 | |

ST ATHAN

| | | | | |
|--------|--------|---------------------|-----|---------|
| THOMAS | John | Welsh Conservatives | 435 | ELECTED |
| TOKER | Sandra | Labour | 311 | |

ST AUGUSTINE'S

| | | | | |
|-----------|---------|---------------------|-----|---------|
| APGLYN | Niclas | Plaid | 217 | |
| BURNETT | Lis | Labour | 887 | ELECTED |
| CHURCH | Paul | Welsh Conservatives | 622 | |
| ROBERTS | Gwyn | Labour | 781 | ELECTED |
| SLAUGHTER | Anthony | Green Party | 280 | |
| WILLIAMS | Sophie | Welsh Conservatives | 615 | |
| WILTON | David | Plaid | 193 | |

ST BRIDES MAJOR

| | | | | |
|---------|--------|---------------------|-----|---------|
| BOWERS | Eric | Labour | 254 | |
| PRESTON | Audrey | Welsh Conservatives | 480 | ELECTED |
| ROGERS | Neil | Green Party | 172 | |

STANWELL

| | | | | |
|----------|-------------|---------------------|-----|---------|
| BIRCH | Janice | Labour | 666 | ELECTED |
| LLOYD | Ken | Welsh Conservatives | 309 | |
| ROPER | Adrian | Plaid | 152 | |
| WILLIAMS | Christopher | Welsh Conservatives | 294 | |
| WILSON | Mark | Labour | 651 | ELECTED |

SULLY

| | | | | |
|--------------|---------|---------------------|-----|---------|
| ERNEST | Anthony | Welsh Conservatives | 342 | |
| HARDY | Paula | Labour | 330 | |
| MAHONEY | Kevin | UKIP | 633 | ELECTED |
| MIRZA-DAVIES | Carolyn | Plaid | 148 | |
| PENROSE | Bob | Independent | 876 | ELECTED |
| SHARPE | Sarah | Welsh Conservatives | 342 | |

WENVOE

| | | | | |
|-----------|----------|---------------------|-----|---------|
| BIRD | Jonathan | Welsh Conservatives | 599 | ELECTED |
| NATARAJAN | Kalpana | Labour | 217 | |

Walking festival in rural Vale was a great success!



ABOVE: Jane Hutt AM with Alan Wilson and the Castle, Court and Wells walkers. WITH the sun shining for the full three days of the Vale of Glamorgan Walking Festival, the Castle, Court and Wells Walk was well supported on Sunday, May 13, with 27 walkers joining up under Valeways Trustee Alan Wilson's leadership. Jane Hutt AM joined the walk, which started at Cowbridge car park behind the Town Hall. Many of the walkers had not enjoyed the pleasures of the Penllyn Estate and were "delighted" with the walk. The AM said: "It is wonderful that Valeways has organised this walking festival following the success of last year, with the volunteer walk leaders and supporters working hard throughout the weekend to give so many people such enjoyable walks in the beautiful Vale countryside. "Well done to all who organised the festival and thank you from all of us who enjoyed taking part!"

Penarth Computer Club – what next?

YOU cannot have missed the launch of Facebook onto the stock market, turning Mark Zuckerberg into a multi-billionaire at the age of 28.

He is now one of the richest 25 people in the world; in eight years from setting up the company it has grown to serve 900 million users.

We must recognise that the spread of computers means we have to adjust our behaviour or suffer some unintended consequences. Take care when putting personal details on any social network site. (Identity theft; teenage party gate-crashers and so on).

Computers cannot be blamed for problems due to inappropriate use, just as car accidents are frequently due to poor driving, rather than the car itself.

The computer's 'black box' capability is available in cars. Car based computers can contribute to safer journeys. They can sound an alarm if the driver's eyelids droop due to tiredness. They can ensure that brakes do not lock and so help a controlled stop.

They can detect if the car is straying across lane markings and they can record information about what the engine is doing and what the dashboard instruments are showing.

It is now possible for such information to identify the root cause of an accident to be an individual's poor driving – with legal consequences.

If a driver uses a Sat-Nav that shows where the safety cameras are, at what point does society infer that this facility means that the driver is happy to exceed the legal speed limit as long as s/he will not get caught?

As a counterbalance, computers on main roads are being used to check average speeds over a long distance.

All these things give rise to privacy issues and cries of "Big Brother". Nevertheless, computers make more restrictive legislation easier to enforce. Number plate recognition means that valid insurance, MOT certification and road tax can be verified automatically.

If you buy a car with a keyless system for entry and ignition, be aware: manufacturers are combating a device that can be plugged into the diagnostic port and get the car's on-board computer to programme a chip in a blank fob and hence take control of the car. Be sure the car locks engage properly when you leave it. At least the criminals must break in first.

On a lighter note, if have an iPad, a case is on the market that means you can always make notes no matter how flat the battery – use the pen provided to write on the paper pad set into the cover that protects the screen. Nice touch, that. (Google 'Booquad').

And news that scientists can now 'unprint' a sheet of paper by using a laser to vaporise the toner forming the letters without ruining the paper for reuse, saving trees and carbon emissions. Whatever next?

The next meeting is on Tuesday, June 12 at All Saints Lesser Hall, Victoria Square, Penarth, at 8pm. We shall review our year so far and ask if we can do better. For more information, call 02920 708439.

HOWARD DESMOND,
Chairman

ADVERTISEMENT FEATURE

Planning to buy a used car? Top tips shared!

SO you've been saving your pennies and are in the market for a second hand car – unfortunately, it is all too easy to buy a car that has hidden faults or problems! Help yourself to avoid these pitfalls by reading this article!

Always start the process of buying a used car with research. If you're in the market for a certain brand of car, research the vehicle type on the internet to find out the common problems, so that you can look for them when you go to see a car.

Also, research the trader selling the car you're considering; think about it, if a car sales forecourt advertises that they also do other services, such as mileage correction for example, the car may have been tampered with.

Similarly with those that offer DPf removal, it is worth checking whether you are buying a car that has had DPf issues; if the DPf has been removed, you may have emission issues in the future.

Another to watch out for is remapping; a non-standard map could cause issues in the future.

Therefore, you should always research the garage you are planning to buy the car from before handing over your hard earned cash.

There are some simple things to do that will help you to find the right car at the right price:

Service history is more vital than you think – The longevity of an engine depends on the maintenance it has received.

Ask how many owners it's had – Lots of owners means less value!

How clean is the engine bay? – If it's filthy it hasn't been serviced properly; leaves and grime are a sign that the car hasn't been looked after very well.

Always pull the dipstick for yourself – Check the colour of the oil and the smell; it shouldn't be black or smell burnt. Also check for emulsion

(mayonnaise style substance) on the oil cap, this could be an indication of overheating problems.

Check the tyres – Inspect the tyres for uneven wear; the car may need balancing and tracking or new tyres – not a big deal but something to negotiate on the price.

How many keys are being supplied? – It's not always easy to have a second key cut or programmed; on most modern cars it's expensive and in some cases a main dealer-only job. Insist that the trader supplies you with a second key as part of the sale.

Look closely at the bodywork – Check the joins of the panels for uneven or out of sync gaps; this could be a tell-tale sign that the car has had bodywork repairs in its past, it could even be an unrecorded accident-damaged vehicle.

A good test is to run a pound coin down the gap and see if the gap remains the same the whole way down.

Hidden faults and gremlins – Have an independent code scan within a week or two of buying the car before your warranty expires; a clever trader will have cleared the fault codes before you bought the car but a current fault is likely to throw a code within a week of driving.

Most garages offer a code scan these days; just make sure you pick a garage that isn't a trader so that they are unbiased.

Never trust a car trader – No matter how nice he may seem, how friendly and how honest; remember that it's his job to sell you the car and that his bonus depends on it, so he's bound to exaggerate the good and skip over anything else!

Be sceptical and trust your gut instinct – Question everything and if it seems too good to be true, it probably is!

CLAIRE NICHOLLS,
PERMOVEO

Menter y Fro appoints new business chief

KEVIN DAVIES has been appointed business manager of Menter y Fro, which promotes the Welsh language in the Vale.

He was chief executive of Menter Iaith Rhondda Cynon Taf, a sister organisation. Kevin comes from a farming family in Pembrokeshire and has worked for television and radio, both as a producer and presenter.

Menter y Fro is part of a network of organisations around Wales supporting and promoting the use of Welsh in their particular area.

Kevin said: "Bearing in mind that the National Eisteddfod, which takes place this year in the Vale, is only just round the corner, I foresee an exciting and promising future for the Welsh language in the area. It is inevitable that there will be even more demand for opportunities to use Welsh as a result, and I am very keen to help Menter y Fro meet this demand."

To find out more about the activities of Menter y Fro, visit the website: www.menteryfro.com or phone 01446 720600.

Menter y Fro yn pendoi swyddog busnes

MAE Kevin Davies wedi cael ei benodi yn swyddog busnes Menter y Fro, y fenter iaith ar gyfer Bro Morgannwg. Mae Kevin yn dod â llawer o brofiad gyda fe fel prif weithredwr Menter Iaith Rhondda Cynon Taf.

Un o deulu ffermio yn Sir Benfro yw Kevin, ac mae e wedi gweithio i'r teledu ac i'r radio, yn gynhyrchydd ac yn gyflwynydd fel ei gilydd. Mae Menter y Fro yn bodoli er mwyn hybu a chefnogi defnyddio o'r iaith Gymraeg ym Mro Morgannwg.

Meddai Kevin: "O gofio bod yr Eisteddfod Genedlaethol ar y gorwel ym Mro Morgannwg, rwy'n gweld dyfodol cyffrous a disglair i'r iaith Gymraeg yn y sir. Mae'n anochel y bydd hyd yn oed mwy o alw am gyfleoedd i ddefnyddio'r iaith Gymraeg o'r herwydd, ac rwy'n awyddus iawn i helpu Menter y Fro gwrdd â'r galw hwn."

I wybod mwy am weithgarwch Menter y Fro, ewch i'r wefan: www.menteryfro.com

Lafarge provide Eisteddfod boost



Left to right: Lafarge's Ewenny quarry manager Roger Sheppard, Eisteddfod chief executive Elfed Roberts and Lafarge's Aberthaw Works manager James Kirkpatrick.

A MAJOR donation from construction materials company Lafarge is helping National Eisteddfod organisers keep 'on track' in the build-up to this year's festival at Llandow.

Through a partnership between Lafarge's cement works at Aberthaw and its stone quarry at Ewenny near Bridgend, the company is donating over £10,000 worth of stone for the construction of the road and access ways around the Maes, establishing Lafarge as one of the major 'gold' sponsors.

Eisteddfod chief executive explained: "We are delighted that Lafarge has come on board as a major sponsor and partner.

"This donation of material and the expertise Lafarge brings with it in terms of the use of the stone, will make a major difference to the event, especially with our unpredictable Welsh weather!"

Aberthaw Works manager James Kirkpatrick adds: "In addition to providing the material with which to construct the main site road, we will also have a presence in the Eisteddfod Science Pavilion.

"This will give us an opportunity to demonstrate the science behind Lafarge's manufacturing processes and raise the profile of construction materials as an important industry for the future."

For more information go to: www.eisteddfod.org.uk.

LLANMIHANGEL, peaceful present, but a chilling past!

THE quiet village of Llanmihangel is a small settlement 2½ miles from Cowbridge, which dates back to the medieval period.

The village's appearance confuses, as it is a world apart from modern-day living, and has been classed as 'taking a step back in time'.

Llanmihangel is first documented in 1166 as a grange area and in the possession of John Norrays. Its stunning Grade II listed church, which is still lit up at night using oil lamps and candles, was first recorded in 1254 and built with Norman foundations.

Dedicated to St Michael and All Angels, it is furnished with a small font, stone benches in the porch, and a harmonium for musical accompaniment.

The church has a sense of peace and tranquility in its secluded surroundings. An 18th Century silver chalice is set on the south wall, and a holy well which was restored in 1707 by Sir Humphrey Edwin before his death in the same year.

Sir Humphrey's monument is set within the church, with his son Samuel (died 1722) and grandson, Charles, buried beside him.

Plas Llanmihangel was a fortified manor house. But evidence of its earlier existence was found in relation to the church which was constructed to serve the owners of the manor during

ancient times. Prior to Sir Humphrey's occupation of the manor, the Thomas family had been living at Plas Llanmihangel during the 15th Century. They had links with the Herberts, Earls of Pembroke.

Leirez Thomas Ddu of Baglan made considerable changes to the manor during 16th Century, and it was during the outbreak of the Civil War that the estate accumulated extensive debt and the manor was sold to Sir Humphrey Edwin.

It was during 16th Century that the house was extended. Sir Humphrey was an outstanding citizen of the community, a wealthy nouveau-riche merchant and Lord Mayor of London.

He was knighted by King James II in 1697, and chosen as the Sheriff of London and Middlesex and Prince of Orange, (1690) before retiring live within the manor house in this charming village.

The beautiful gardens were his idea, and he named them 'The William and Mary Gardens', which included evergreens, orchards, and lines of yew trees with a pond.

The gardens are Grade II listed in the Register of Landscapes, Parks and Gardens of Special Interest in Wales. The grand garden once had a well and over 100 trimmed yew trees, in line with the fashion of the late 17th Century.

Today, just over 53 inhabitants live in the area, and Plas Llanmihangel is now a guest house.

Legendary tales from the turn of 15th Century relate to witchcraft and its 'evil' magic potions. It is thought that during

those dark times of desperation where hope came to folk in the form of such tonics, a local hearse was labelled a witch.

Hunted out by locals, they thrust an iron ring around her waist to single her out as 'evil', leading to her suicidal death by drowning in the pool. Her hazy image has been seen rising up from the depths of the water, only to disappear at the blink of an eye.

Could this ghostly apparition be the 'Lady of the Ring' the legendary heiress who took her earthly life away from misery?

The mystifying figure of a little green man with piercing green eyes conceals himself amongst the trees, hoping to prey on passers by. What could this frightful image be, and where would he have originated from?

The misty vision of another lady with long flowing locks has been identified walking around the woodland, particularly during stormy weather. She seems to dash hurriedly amongst the trees before vanishing into thin air.

But why would this ghostly person want to seek shelter in a world beyond her realm from a paradise beyond our understanding?

Haunting screams have been heard bellowing out from the hillside at the dead of night, yet no physical person is known to perform these chilling sounds.

Could this deafening echo be a chilling reminder of the perils of our past, or just tricks of the imagination?

Fact or fiction? Only you can decide...

HAYLEY WILLIAMS
hayley.williams550@yahoo.com

The GEM is in partnership with the Dog's Trust to find caring homes for animals in their charge at Bridgend Rehoming Centre (TELEPHONE: 01656 725219)

Help May find a home!

THIS WEEK: MAY is an eight-year-old Shar Pei cross. She is a fun-loving girl, who loves a fuss off those closest to her.

She can be a little wary of new people, but once she trusts you she is a friend for life. She gets on with other dogs, and enjoys a run in the field with her friends, but would prefer to be the only dog in the home so she can be the centre of attention!

May is on medication for an eye condition, Dogs Trust will help with her medical bills for this.

She can live with children aged eight and over. If you would like to offer May a home, please pop in to Dogs Trust Bridgend, Court Colman, Pen-y-Fai, Bridgend, CF31 4NG, or call: 01656 725219.



AFC Colcot are the champions!

AFC COLCOT were crowned champions of the Vale of Glamorgan amateur football league premier division with one game to spare last weekend after an outstanding display against Rhose-based rivals Cardiff Airport.

It was the third encounter between the teams in as many weeks, with both sides meeting in the finals of the ASRS Cup and Barry Cup respectively. Colcot had drawn first blood in the

trilogy of clashes as they ran out 1-0 winners of the ASRS cup, with a 30-yard free-kick from defender Shane Campbell the only difference in an otherwise tight affair.

However, Airport would only have to wait a week to get their revenge as they overcame a two goal deficit at Jenner Park to defeat Colcot 4-2 in the final of the prestigious Barry Cup.

The third fixture was destined to be a real humdinger of a tie, with Airport knowing that they needed at least a win to keep their hopes of winning the league alive,

and Colcot knowing that a win for them would make it a mathematical impossibility to be caught at the top of the league, hence making them champions.

There was a lot at stake, and the game didn't disappoint!

It only took six minutes for the deadlock to be broken – and in an extraordinary fashion. Some excellent interlinking play along the right flank between Nathan Donnelly and Ryan Lawlor saw the latter deliver the ball in to his brother, Daniel Lawlor, who adjusted his body at the edge of the penalty

area to meet the cross with an overhead kick.

Cardiff Airport's goalkeeper hardly moved as the ball flew into the bottom right corner and it was 1-0 to Colcot.

Cardiff Airport looked rattled, but from the restart they immediately looked to level the scoreline – and they didn't have to wait long, as on ten minutes they found the net with a looping shot which defied Colcot 'keeper Matty Evans to find the net.

Colcot drove forward in numbers as they sought to regain the lead, and on 39 minutes they did. Once again, some fine work along the right-hand flank saw the ball delivered in to Daniel Lawlor, whose headed-flick fell to his attacking colleague Nathan Donnelly to drive home from close-range for 2-1 Colcot.

Uplifted, the home side then added to their lead two minutes later as Airport conceded a foul in the Colcot half.



AFC Colcot celebrate one of the club's greatest ever seasons.

The resulting free kick was taken by Shane Campbell, who stroked the ball almost 60 yards into Cardiff Airport's penalty area with deadly accuracy.

The ball was met by Osborne, who rose taller than his Airport counterparts to head the ball into the top right corner with aplomb.

Colcot looked confident, and on 70 minutes they extended their lead to 4-1 after some fine attacking play as David

Kavanagh thumped the ball from almost 30 yards into the bottom right corner.

From the restart, Cardiff Airport continued to push forward in an attempt to re-establish a presence within the tie, and on 75 minutes their efforts were rewarded with a penalty.

Airport converted the spot-kick to narrow the scoreline to 4-2.

At the final whistle, the victorious Colcot players, managers and

fans were typically vociferous in their celebrations, making no secret of their delight in having secured their status as

champions of the Vale of Glamorgan Premier Division.

Man of the match: Geraint Osborne.

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act, 1990 Town and Country Planning (General Development Procedure) Order 1995

Development that may affect a Conservation Area / Datblygu a allai effeithio ar Ardal Gadwraeth

Application No./ Rhif y cais: 2012/00443/FUL
Proposal/Cynnyg: Convert an existing Grade 2 terraced property comprising of 3 dwellings into a pair of semi detached dwellings and extension to side 1, 2 and 3, The Butts, Cowbridge

Location/Lleoliad: Conservation Area/ Ardal Gadwraeth: Cowbridge

Application No./ Rhif y cais: 2012/00455/FUL
Proposal/Cynnyg: Conversion of existing retail premises to 1 No. 4 bed townhouse, and construction of 4 no. 3 bed townhouses in existing service yard/carpark, all with associated car parking and private amenity space, in a secure gated Mews Development

Location/Lleoliad: Conservation Area/ Ardal Gadwraeth: The Old Post Office, 61/63, Eastgate, Cowbridge

Listed Building Consent / Caniatâd Adeilad Rhestredig

Application No./ Rhif y cais: 2012/00446/LBC
Proposal/Cynnyg: Convert an existing Grade 2 terraced property comprising of three dwellings into a pair of semi detached dwellings and extension to side 1, 2 & 3, The Butts, Cowbridge

Location/Lleoliad: Listed Building/ Adeilad Rhestredig: Grade II

Application No./ Rhif y cais: 2012/00452/LBC
Proposal/Cynnyg: Conversion and repair to Cornmill and Barn for conversion of barns to holiday let accommodation

Location/Lleoliad: Listed Building/ Adeilad Rhestredig: Llanmihangel Cornmill and Barn, Llanmihangel

Application No./ Rhif y cais: 2012/00463/LBC
Proposal/Cynnyg: To remove remains of infilling wall and replace with gates to make way for a parking space

Location/Lleoliad: Listed Building/ Adeilad Rhestredig: Plymouth House East, Dimlands Road, Llantwit Major

Application(s) of General Interest / Ceisiadau o Ddiddordeb Cyffredinol

Application No./ Rhif y cais: 2012/00327/FUL
Proposal/Cynnyg: Waste recovery and recycling process or processes in respect of motor vehicles, refrigerators, computers and allied items

Location/Lleoliad: The Mill, Chapel Farm, Port Road, Rhose

May affect a Public Right of Way/ Gall effeithio ar Hawl Tramwy Cyhoeddus

Application No./ Rhif y cais: 2012/00455/FUL
Proposal/Cynnyg: Conversion of existing retail premises to 1 No. 4 bed townhouse, and construction of 4 no. 3 bed townhouses in existing service yard/carpark, all with associated car parking and private amenity space, in a secure gated Mews Development

Location/Lleoliad: The Old Post Office, 61/63, Eastgate, Cowbridge

Details may be inspected for 21 days at the address given below, or via

www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk
Gall manylion eu harchwilio am 21 diwrnod yn y cyfeiriad a roddir isod, neu drwy www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk

Dated: 24th May, 2012 Dyddiedig: 24 Mai, 2012
Rob Thomas Rob Thomas
Head of Planning and Transportation Pennaeth Cynllunio a Chludiant
The Vale of Glamorgan Council, Cyngor Bro Morgannwg,
Dock Office, Swyddfa'r Doc,
Barry Docks, Dociau'r Barri,
CF63 4RT Y Barri,
CF63 4RT

VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011 – Section 82 VACANCY FOR LAY MEMBER OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE

Do you want to know more about the way the
Vale of Glamorgan Council's finances operate?
Could you offer a strong and independent voice on
the Council's financial affairs?

Are you interested in local government and want to
play a role in scrutinising how it works?

The Vale of Glamorgan Council is looking for a citizen to sit as an independent member of its Audit Committee. The Audit Committee is important because it:

- reviews, scrutinises and issues reports and recommendations in relation to the Council's financial affairs
- reviews, scrutinises and issues reports and recommendations on the Authority's risk management, internal control and corporate governance arrangements
- oversees its audit arrangements and reviews its financial statements.

It is also possible that other relevant functions will be given to its Audit Committee.

The Council wants to appoint one lay member, with the initial appointment to be for a period of 12 months. Applications are invited from anyone who would be interested in this position. In order to be eligible applicants should:

- be independent of the Council
- recognise and understand the value of the audit function
- have no business connection with the Council
- have knowledge of how local government functions
- display independence of thinking and unbiased attitudes.

When making the appointment, the Council will consider:

- your political independence
- your ability to meet the time commitment involved
- your ability to understand and weigh up evidence
- your understanding of local government.

If you believe you meet the above requirements and are interested in becoming a lay member of the Audit Committee of the Vale of Glamorgan Council you should forward a letter of application "In Confidence" to the Council's Monitoring Officer at the address below explaining your suitability for the post, together with two references by no later than 8th June, 2012. All applications will be judged on merit. Individuals who previously expressed an interest will be considered, subject to the submission of a letter of application and references.

The successful candidate will be entitled to receive a daily fee of £198 (£99 for half day) for attending meetings of the Audit Committee (payments to be capped at a maximum of ten full days per year).

The Council is an equal opportunities employer and provider of services and welcomes applications from women, young people, disabled people and people from ethnic minorities.

It is intended that interviews will take place in June 2012. The successful applicant will be expected to take up their appointment immediately.

The Monitoring Officer
Vale of Glamorgan Council
Civic Offices
Holton Road
Barry



Tough grading for Rising Sun

RECENTLY, 10 students from the Rising-Sun Kyokushin Karate Club took part in a grading at Aberdare Sports Centre.

They endured a grueling three hours, and seven of the students were successful in passing to their next grade.

Senior students Tom Dalton attained 10th kyu and Des Brown 7th kyu. The junior students Max Ladrner and Maddie Barratt (10th kyu), Ciaran Kerr (9th kyu), George Cocks (7th kyu) and Gabe Brown (6th kyu).

After completing the day's events, the majority of the club went away with a feeling of achievement, and some knowing that extra hard work was needed at the dojo for the next grading in July.

The club's two instructors, brothers Lee and Spencer Bennett, will both be competing

abroad within the next couple of weeks. Sempai Spencer Bennett will fight at the Yamburg Cup in Russia and the top prize is 10,000 Euros.

Spencer said: "This will be my toughest test so far. It doesn't get any harder in our sport than going to Russia to fight full contact Kyokushin. The Russians in our sport are like machines and just keep going and going!"

Sensai Lee Bennett is competing in the European Championships in Italy. Lee's goal is to attain a better position than his last attempt in 2001, fifth overall.

The Rising-Sun Kyokushin Karate Club's dojo is at the Samurai Centre, Savoy Buildings, Broad Street, Barry. For more information visit: www.rising-sun-kyokushin.co.uk, or call Lee on 07861699476.

LH

VALE SECONDS COME SO CLOSE

PAUL GILBERT was the star as Vale CC Second XI made a spirited attempt to chase down a daunting target when they visited Malpas last weekend.

The home side reached 273 for 2 and Vale fell 13 runs short on 260 for 6. Gilbert reached 71 not out, his highest score for the Vale and by far his finest innings.

The start was delayed as heavy overnight rain left the wicket very wet. With the match reduced to 45 overs, acting Vale skipper Carl Brooks sent the home side in on winning the toss.

After a solid but wicketless start by opening bowlers James Walsh and Luke James, the Malpas top two soon found the slow pitch and the very short square boundary on one side very much to their liking. Posting 115 for the first wicket, the aggressive Marcotis

finally fell for 75 to Martin Scott's increasingly effective off spin.

Despite Gilbert picking up the other opener Simmons for 50 with his first ball, Watts and Mason took the home side to an imposing total.

Walsh and Scott were the pick of the bowlers, well supported in the difficult conditions by James and Tom Johnson.

Brooks and Walsh then gave Vale a solid start, putting on 42 before Walsh departed, bowled working across a full toss.

Scott then joined Brooks in a well-paced stand of 60 before the skipper Carl Brooks sent the skipper was out for an airy and unconvincing 30.

Gilbert and Scott put the visitors in potential sight of a shock victory until Scott went for 67.

In reality, the home side probably had the game under control, and Gilbert's valiant effort was ultimately unrewarded.

MF

Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan Schools' senior track and field championships

After the disappointment of the cancellation of the opening fixture in the Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan Schools' summer track and field programme – because of the forecast heavy rain – it was a huge relief that the second fixture went ahead.

The senior championships for sixth form students was held on a dry, sunny, but not wind free afternoon at Cardiff International Sports Stadium.

In recent years, Mrs Andrea Williams has brought students from Barry College to compete at this fixture, with some very encouraging results.

Mrs Williams was back again this year, but now with students from the newly formed Cardiff and Vale College, the result of the merger between Barry and Coleg Glan Hafren – though all the students competing came from the Barry end.

The pressures of the external examination system have had a major impact on the number of pupils taking part both in these championships and in the middle competition for years 10 and 11 – especially in the girls' events – with the numbers taking part now significantly down on what they once were.

Of the four Vale winners in the boys' competitions, it was Bradley Cole who produced the best set of results. In 2011, the Barry College student had won the hammer and the javelin with distances of 48.20 metres and 50.11 metres respectively.

This year, competing for Cardiff and Vale College, both of his winning distances were over the 50 metres mark – 50.52 in the hammer and 50.26 in the javelin – as he retained both titles, and took fourth in the discus.

Matthew Edwards has been in sparkling form over the country this winter and he carried that through to the track, over 1,500 metres. Despite the presence of the experienced year-13 Tom Davis (Porthcawl) in the field, Matthew took the race by the scruff of its neck and front ran a hugely encouraging win in four minutes, 6.26 seconds, a time that he will improve as the summer progresses.

There will be huge interest when he makes his debut in the 2,000 metres steeplechase later in the season.

It was good to see James Graves back in action in the 110 metres hurdles. Although the Bro Morgannwg year-13 will be disappointed

with his winning time – over 20 seconds – we hope that it will encourage him to keep competing when he goes off to study at university.

The fourth Vale winner was Joe Green (St Cyres), who claimed a win in the triple jump with a respectable 12.39 metres (best) and took fourth place in the 100 metres final.

Of the other Vale performances, the most encouraging were set by Anax da Silva (Cardiff NS Vale College). The former Cathays High pupil was a member of the Welsh Schools track and field teams at the SIAB Schools under-17 international and the Sainsbury's UK School Games last summer.

Competing over 100 metres and for the sprint relay team, he ran strongly in both sprints, recording 22.48 seconds in the longer event and 11.59 seconds in the 100 metres final, but had to settle for second in both events to another year-12, Sam Gordon (Bishop of Llandaff).

Two Bro Morgannwg year-13 students, pupils who have been wonderful points' gainers in schools' track and field competition over the last five years, were making their final appearance at this event.

Tom Perry wracked up 38 points in finishing sixth in the shot, third in the discus and fourth in the hammer, while Tieran Scott totalled 35 points through his eighth place in the discus, fifth in the hammer and third in the javelin.

Thank goodness girls from Bryn Hafren and Cowbridge took part. Without them, the number of competitors would have been depressingly small.

There were eight victories by Vale girls with the top spot possibly being shared by year-12 students Fiona Bray (Cowbridge) in the 3,000 metres (11:44.07) and Bethany Hawkins (Bro Morgannwg) with a triple jump best of 9.09 metres.

Cowbridge gained five more victories – three on the track through Katie Wynn (800), Nikita John (1,500) and Georgina Jackson (100 hurdles), and a jumps double courtesy of Rebecca Thomas (high jump) and Imogen Harrison (long jump).

With first places earning 17 points in the team competitions, those six individual wins were worth 102 points – and there was another 17 from the relay victory.

After her recent operation to solve a knee problem, it was good to see year-13 Ellie Carter (Bryn Hafren) in action.

Wisely, she restricted herself to throws events – and she won the shot – but the hope is, even

with the pressure of her A-levels, that as the summer progresses she will be able to run and jump as well.

In the team competitions, there was disappointment for the Cowbridge boys, who had to settle for second behind Cardiff High, but joy for the girls, who claimed their section ahead of Bryn Hafren.

Following this competition, team managers Dai Williams (Glantaf) and Sarah Moore (Willows) will be sitting down shortly to select the senior teams to compete for Cardiff and the Vale district at the Aviva Welsh Schools Nationals, to be held at Penlan, Brecon, on Saturday July 7. It is likely that a large number of the Vale athletes who appear in these results may be invited to compete.

Results of Vale pupils:

Senior boys: 100: Ht 1(-1.2): 2 Anax da Silva (Card&Vale Coll) 11.67; 4 Adam Roscoe (Cow) 12.34; 5 Luke O'Sullivan (Barry Comp) 12.47; Ht 2(-0.2): 3 Joe Green (St Cyres) 12.11; Final(-1.1): 2 Anax da Silva (Card&Vale Coll) 11.59; 4 Joe Green (St Cyres) 12.17; 5 Adam Roscoe (Cow) 12.19.

200: 2 Anax da Silva (Card&Vale Coll) 22.48; 5 Jack Couch (St Cyres) 25.82; 6 Sam Roberts (Cow) 27.39.

800: 3 Jack Couch (St Cyres) 2:16.14; 6 Dillon Morgan (Cow) 2:25.73

1,500: 1 Matthew Edwards (Barry Comp) 4:06.26; 5 Tom Kamar (Cow) 6:08.61; 6 Lloyd Stock (Cow) 6:14.49

3,000: 3 James Freeman (Cow) 13:34.24

110H(2.0): 1 James Graves (Bro M) 20.17

2,000Sc: 2 Adam Roscoe (Cow) 08:48.9; 3 Tom Hillman (Bro M) 09:07.5

4x100: 2 Cowbridge 53.69

HJ: 2 Harry Trotman (Cow) 1.60; 4 James Graves (Bro M) 1.50

LJ: 5 Adam Roscoe (Cow) 4.97; 7 Luke O'Sullivan (Barry Comp) 4.86; 10 James Freeman (Cow) 4.38

TJ: 1 Joe Green (St Cyres) 12.39; 6 Harry Trotman (Cow) 10.1

SP: 5 Dillon Morgan (Cow) 9.65; 6 Tom Perry (Bro M) 9.44; 7 Gus Rees-McPherson (Cow) 9.43; 9 Sam Bowditch (Barry Comp) 8.28

DT: 3 Tom Perry (Bro M) 30.45; 4 Bradley Cole (Card&Vale Coll) 28.56; 8 Tieran Scott (Bro M) 22.14; 9 Dillon Morgan (Cow) 21.08; 11 Tom Cunnington (Cow) 18.47; 12 Sam Bowditch (Barry Comp) 16.06

HT: 1 Bradley Cole (Card&Vale Coll) 50.52; 4 Tom Perry (Bro M) 25.08; 5 Tieran Scott (Bro M) 20.80; 6 Gus Rees-McPherson (Cow)



Tom Perry contributed 38 points to the Bro Morgannwg team score with his performances in the throws.

19.10; 7 Lloyd Stock (Cow) 12.80

JT: 1 Bradley Cole (Card&Vale Coll) 50.26; 3 Tieran Scott (Bro M) 40.96; 4 Sam Roberts (Cow) 40.39; 5 Kieran Carpenter (Bro M) 33.52; 10 Tom Cunnington (Cow) 18.54

Team: 2 Cowbridge 228; 4th Bro Morgannwg 135; 5th Cardiff & Vale College 78; 7th St Cyres 56; 8th Barry Comprehensive 46.

Senior girls:

100(1.4): 2 Nikita John (Cow) 14.49

200(1.7): 3 Lauren McCarthy (St Cyres) 29.64; 4 Imogen Harrison (Cow) 30.39; 5 Sophie Lloyd (Cow) 30.67

800: 1 Katie Wynne (Cow) 3:28.70; 2 Sam Chambers (Bryn H) 3:35.20

1,500: 1 Nikita John (Cow) 5:37.30

3,000: 1 Fiona Bray (Cow) 11:44.07

100H(2.0): 1 Georgina Jackson (Cow) 21.31

400H: 2 Chloe Phillips (Card&Vale Coll) 82.81

4x100: 1 Cowbridge 60.27

HJ: 1 Rebecca Thomas (Cow) 1.30

LJ: 1 Imogen Harrison (Cow) 3.90; 2 Lauren McCarthy (St Cyres) 3.80; 3 Romy Killick (Cow) 3.70; 6 Danielle Close (Bryn H) 2.79; 7 Lindsay Kerslake (Bryn H) 1.91

TJ: 1 Bethany Hawkins (Bro M) 9.09; 2 Rebecca Thomas (Cow) 8.58

SP: 1 Ellie Carter (Bryn H) 6.96; 2 Katie Wynne (Cow) 6.16; 3 Danielle Close (Bryn H) 5.90; 4 Georgina Jackson (Cow) 5.26

DT: 2 Nikita John (Cow) 18.92; 3 Katie Wynne (Cow) 15.31; 4 Ellie Carter (Bryn H) 12.25; 5 Danielle Close (Bryn H) 11.68

JT: 2 Coryn Sexton (Cow) 20.69; 3 Ellie Carter (Bryn H) 8.73; 4

Sophie Lloyd (Cow) 8.46

Team: 1 Cowbridge 279; 2nd Bryn Hafren 113; 5th St Cyres 29; 6th Bro Morgannwg 17; 7th= Cardiff & Vale College 15.

PETER MORRIS



James Graves (Bro Morgannwg 42) battles it out with Joe Bishop in the 100m hurdles. Photographs by Ian Dixon.



An encouraging early season win over 1500m for Matthew Edwards (Barry Comprehensive).



Second place on her debut over 400m hurdles for Chloe Phillips (Cardiff and Vale College).



Second place in the 100m and 200m on his senior debut for Anax da Silva.

New Barry football team to honour memory of lost friend

BY LEIGH GRUFFYDD SANDERS

WITH an annual football tournament in memory of a Barry man set to take place this Saturday (May 26), the family have received a further boost by the news that a football team has been set up to carry on the memory of their son.

David 'Dinxsy' Coombs tragically died in 2003 aged just 19. Since then, parents Kim and Paul Coombs have staged an annual football tournament in his honour that has raised money for charity.

Mum Kim told The GEM: "David was a big football fan and we wanted to do something to keep him alive.

"The tournament gets bigger every year. Last year we had 26 teams and we do a fundraising thing on the side. Usually we raise about £500 but obviously we'd like that to be more.

"There will be raffles, refreshments and each player pays £1 to play. This year we will be giving the money to Cerebrus and Great Ormond Street.

"The winners and runners up get medals and the winners get a 'David's Boot' trophy, a golden left boot, as David was left handed and left footed."



The Coombs family with last year's finalists.



Friends and family turn out every year to honour David Dinxsy Coombs.

To keep the memory of David going further, and raise extra funds for charity, friends of the Barry boy have set up a football team using his initials – DPC United – to play in the Lazarou Leagues from next season. This weekend's tournament will be their first outing together.

Matthew Davie, a friend of David's and one of the team's founding members, told The GEM: "We were a close bunch of mates. I met David in secondary school and moved to the area he was from and it went from there.

"There was a group of about 10 of us that were really close and used to do everything together.

"It will be an absolute honour for everyone in the squad to wear the shirt, even people who didn't know David know how much it means to us and are extremely proud to be part of such a great cause.

"We are happy to let his parents get involved as much as they want, everything we do for the club will be run past them first."

And get involved they will, as Kim explains: "We are chuffed, over the

moon, that his friends still talk about him as if he is still part of the crowd.

"He was a lovely kid and is still well thought of. We will be involved; I am going to be the treasurer."

The tournament is taking place at Buttrills Field, Barry, with registration at 10am (kick-off at 11am). Teams are seven-a-side, can be male, female or mixed, and competitors must be over 16 years old.

For more information, or to register interest, telephone Kim on 07973 565150.

Successful week for Cowbridge Bowling Club

ON Monday May 14, 15 lady members of Cowbridge Bowling Club visited Llandrinod Wells for the Patron's Day of the Welsh Women's Bowling Association, who celebrate their 80th anniversary this year.

The greens are very good at Llandrinod, the home of Welsh bowling, and it was great to see matches on all 21 rinks.

The ladies all enjoyed their games, and it was good to play bowls and meet with ladies from clubs all over Wales.

Later, they enjoyed high tea at the Metropole Hotel, where they were entertained by the Rhayader Male Voice Choir. A very pleasant day, which was enjoyed by everyone.

On Tuesday it was back to the club games, with a match in the CCS at home to Bridgend Municipal, and a good 51-34 win.

Lynda Wilson, Mary Dowdle, Pat Davey and skip Shirley Wilkinson

won 15-12; Kay Edwards, Diane Lloyd, Sue Flower and skip Pat Holdsworth won 19-9; and the rink of Glenys Davies, Carol Davies, Joan Bradley and skip Joy Woolford won 17-13.

In their league match, away to Barry Central, they had another good win, this time 51-30.

Diane Purnell, Margaret Cooper, Pat Holdsworth and skip Pat Davey won 16-8. Lynda Wilson, Judy Springett, Joan Bradley won well, 24-6. The only losing rink was skip Sue Flowers' - by 11-16.

In a good week for matches, the men played both their games, a Munro Cup match and a Carruthers Shield match.

In the Munro Cup, at home to Barry Central, sadly Central could only bring 12 players, a sign of the times for a lot of clubs.

Cowbridge won on all four rinks for a total of 91-46.

The best rink was on skip Steve Dickens' rink, by 30-10, the other members being Mansel Davey, Gerry Lloyd and

Guy Morton.

On Ron Frayling's rink of Norman Wilkinson, Mick Davey and Ron Woodford, they won 24-7. Byron Richards' rink won 25-9 with help from Terry Dinsworth, Clive Pritchard and Len Taylor.

The only close game was on Dennis Snellings' rink; Eric Sewell, Bryan Hole and Colin Wilson combining for a 12-10 win.

In the Carruthers Shield, away to Millwood, the men lost 63-90, only winning on one rink, that of skip Byron Richards, by 19-15. In a good game, Byron's other players were John Trott, Len Taylor and David Jones.

The other close game was the rink of Jim Hewlett, David Williams, Colin Wilson and skip Steve Dickens, who were all square at 17-all going in to the last end, but dropped a three to lose 17-20.

The other two both lost, Dennis Snellings' rink 12-31 and Roger Barwick's rink 15-24.

NJW

Bro Morgannwg's championship win



YSGOL Bro Morgannwg's year-9 team won the Cardiff and Vale Schools Football Cup 4-3 in the final against Whitchurch High School. Bro Morgannwg's goals were scored by Dafydd Smith (three) and Tom Edwards.

Cowbridge under-14s end season on a high

COWBRIDGE under-14s ended the season finishing fourth in a very competitive league.

The Cowbridge Town football presentation day saw the whole squad receive trophy awards in recognition of their tremendous efforts over the season.

The team player's award vote was won by captain Ben Jones, who in addition

to being an influential player on the pitch took the captain's role on and inspired all around him.

The award for manager's player went to striker Louis Phillips for his commitment on the pitch and most importantly his concentration, and his hard working attitude in training.

The clubman of the year award went to Seb Chan for his

enthusiasm for training, and for supporting the team even if he doesn't always get to play.

Well done to all squad members, you were a credit to yourselves and to Cowbridge FC in all aspects throughout the season.

We also would like to congratulate Porthkerry Panthers, who really deserved to take this year's title.

Busy times for gymnasts

THE end of April saw children at Vale Gymnastics undertaking their latest set of assessments for the VG Award Scheme, which is designed to help children improve their gymnastics skills and gain recognition for doing so.

Children aged four to 11 worked through a list of challenging targets to try and achieve their bronze, silver and gold awards.

The coaches at the club were extremely impressed with all the children, who are progressing at a tremendous rate, and this latest set of assessments has seen the highest percentage of gymnasts achieving their bronze awards.

A number of talented

children have also received their silver awards and it looks very likely that the club will be giving out gold awards at the next assessment week in June.

The award scheme has been running since last summer and already more than 100 Vale children have received recognition for their hard work and impressive gymnastic ability - well done to everyone!

Meanwhile, the competition squads are working very hard in preparation for their performance at the National Eisteddfod in August, followed by the competition circuit next year.

Everyone at the club would like to wish them the best of luck!

WOLVES SHOW THEIR SKILLS

FIVE boys from Dinas Powys Wolves under-9s represented Mike Fowler's elite squad recently against Hereford FC academy, with coach Lee Saunders.

The boys showed off their skills at Edgar Street, and it was a very exciting evening for the players, who have never played on a professional ground against strong opposition before.

Each child really enjoyed themselves and they are looking forward to doing it all again soon.

LS



Important information for existing and new council tenants

From April 2013 Housing Benefit Rules are changing for 'working age' tenants who live in Council and Housing Association properties. Please note, if you are of pension age this will not affect you.

Deductions will be made from Housing Benefit claim where a claimant is living in a property that is classed as too large for them. There will be a 14% deduction for one extra bedroom and a 25% deduction for two or more bedrooms.

To calculate room needs for a client, one bedroom is allowed for each of the following:

- every adult couple;
- any other adult aged over 18;
- any two children of the same sex up to age 16;
- any two children regardless of sex aged under 10; or
- any other child.

Foster children are not included in the calculation.

Examples

A single person (of working age) living in a two-bedroom property

The assessment of room need would be one bedroom, so a 14% deduction from their Housing Benefit would apply.

A couple (of working age) living in a three-bedroom property

The assessment of room need would be one bedroom, so a 25% deduction from their Housing Benefit would apply.

A single parent or couple with a son aged 8 and a daughter aged 6, living in a three-bedroom property

The assessment of room need would be two bedrooms, so there would be a 14% deduction from their Housing Benefit.



Three One-Bedroom Apartments for Sale in Meadow Walk, Pontyclun £64,500*

Are you able to obtain a mortgage? Are you a first time buyer struggling to get a foot on the property ladder?

Then this opportunity may be for you!

- A stylish one-bedroom apartment
- Spacious open plan lounge/dining room
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- Off-street parking space
- Five-minute walk to station serving east to Cardiff and west to Swansea

*Price is 75% of market value via restriction on the title.

There is no rent to pay on the remaining equity, and this makes the property more affordable.

For more information, contact the Rhondda Cynon Taff Affordable Housing Officer on 01443 425 388.

A single parent or couple with two daughters, aged 12 and 6, and a son aged 4, living in a three-bedroom property

The assessment of room need would be three bedrooms, so no deduction would apply.

Please be aware of the above when making bids for properties in this advert as this may affect how much rent you pay in your property.



BUDDING FORMULA ONE DESIGNERS OFF TO FINALS



ABOVE: The winning pupils, with Alex Clarke of Corneli Primary School.

CORNELI PRIMARY SCHOOL PUPILS IN POLE POSITION!

CORNELI Primary School has won the regional heats of the F1 Schools Challenge, and will now represent Wales in the finals of the competition in Birmingham next month.

The challenge invites UK primary and secondary schools to compete in multi-disciplinary challenges.

Teams are judged on car speed, as well as supporting evidence of their design, verbal presentation and marketing display stand in the pits.

Jan Battrick, the headteacher, said: "We are very proud of the children from our F1 in schools team and absolutely delighted and overwhelmed by the generous support we have received from all of our sponsors."

A spokesperson for the F1 Schools

Challenge said: "By creating a fun and exciting learning environment, it is hoped youngsters will gain an informed opinion about career options."

Teams compete regionally, nationally and internationally for the F1 in Schools World Championship trophy. This year's final will take place at Birmingham NEC on June 27.

Labour council is 'not complacent' over big majority



Above: The new BCBC cabinet.

THE six councillors who form the new cabinet at Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC) have been unveiled.

Coun Mel Nott and Coun David Sage return as Leader and deputy Leader respectively of the Labour administration.

Coun Lyn Morgan retains the Wellbeing portfolio, and Coun Phil White, Communities. Coun Huw David moves to Children and Young People, while former party chair Coun Mike Gregory takes over the resources portfolio, responsible for the authority's finances.

Coun Nott said: "I'm very conscious of the fact that the people of the borough have chosen to return 39 Labour councillors this time around –

some 12 more than during the last period of administration.

"From a political point of view this is a fantastic achievement and a tribute to the hard work of the local party. But with that large majority also comes great responsibility and accountability, something I will continue to reinforce with my group. This is certainly not a time for complacency.

"I would also prefer to keep our politics and the way we all do business positive and constructive.

"Yes, we are the largest group, but there are 54 elected members of this council and we should, as far as possible, be working together with the common aim of improving our communities despite our different political views and opinions."

Company chiefs are finalists in IoD awards



Winner Steve Dalton, presented by Allan Griffiths (Lloyds TSB Commercial).

LOCAL company directors were among business leaders from across Wales honoured in the 2012 Institute of Directors (IoD) Wales Director of the Year Awards at a glittering event in Cardiff.

Among the finalists for the IoD Wales Director of the Year award was Steve Dalton, MD of Sony UK Technology Centre, Pencoeed, Bridgend.

Donna Turner-Kot

of n-ergy group Ltd, Bocam Park, Pencoeed, was shortlisted for the Director in a Small Business – south Wales award.

Shane Bissett of The Royal Mint, Llantrisant, was shortlisted for: Young Director of the Year – south Wales, and Emma Leeke, MD of Leekes Retail, Pontyclun, was shortlisted for the Director in a Family Business award.

Roll of honour at Brynteg School

I WONDER if your readers could help us? We are enormously proud of our former pupils in whichever field they have made a success.

Consequently, we are producing some Alumni boards for the upper school lobby to go with our website version and would like these to be as accurate as possible.

You will see from the impressive list below that very reluctantly, in the field of sport we have only included full international honours as opposed to junior or under-20s national representation.

In other spheres, we have listed people according to our general awareness of their progress and success.

I am sure your readers can tell us of many ex Brynteg pupils that we may have omitted. If so, please contact the school on 01656 641800, or the school email address at: admin@bryntegcs.bridgend.sch.uk.

BB Bennetts, 1909, rugby, England; JMC Lewis, 1912-1913, rugby, Wales; H Wyndham Thomas, 1912-1913, rugby, Wales; Melbourne Thomas, 1919-1924, rugby, Wales; Dr Jack Matthews, 1947-1951, rugby, Wales and British Lions; Ken Richards, 1960-1961, rugby, Wales. Wilson Lauder, 1969-1977, rugby, Scotland; JPR Williams, 1969-1981, rugby, Wales and British Lions; Gerald Williams, 1980-1982, rugby, Wales; Gareth Powell Williams, 1981-1982, rugby, Wales; Jacqui Stephen, 1985, journalist, media and TV critic; Mike Hall, 1988-1995, rugby, Wales.

Owain Williams, 1990, rugby, Wales; Kevin Ellis, 1991, GB and Wales Rugby League; Rebecca John, 1994, BBC broadcasting/journalism; Rob Howley, 1995-2002, rugby, Wales and British Lions; Dafydd James, 1995-2007, rugby, Wales and British Lions; Gareth Lewis, 1999, broadcasting/journalism.

Gavin Henson, 2001-, rugby, Wales and British Lions; James Bate, 2003, rugby, Wales; Gareth John Williams, 2003, rugby, Wales and British Lions; Gary Owen, 2003, playwright and winner of Arts Council Award; Stephen Evans, 2004, journalism.

Stephen Thomas, 2004, world champion and Paralympic sailor; Maria Miller, 2005, MP. Paul Burston, 2006, author and journalist; Prof Keith Burnett, 2007, vice chancellor, University of Sheffield; Llewellyn Matthews, 2007, Walker Cup golfer; Nicole Cooke, 2008, cycling Olympic and world champion.

Rhys Davies, 2008,

international golfer; Carwyn Jones, 2009, First Minister for Wales; John Paul Davies, 2009, Sky Sports journalist; Kate Scott Williams, 2009, BBC broadcasting; Alyn Hawke, 2011, actor; Rhys Webb, 2012, rugby, Wales.

Brynteg gets full marks
BRYNTEG School has recently received a large number of external awards – the ESTYN inspection of 2009 applauded a number of 'outstanding' features and one was the continual professional development of all its staff.

The school has now won the CPD MARK, an industrial standard kitemark which acknowledges excellence in the professional support and development of its staff. This sought after award is very similar to Investors in People but bespoke to schools.

Brynteg is the first secondary school in Wales to receive this kitemark and one of the largest schools in the UK to do so.

Deputy headteacher Robert Hopkins welcomes this award as recognition of the time, effort and resources invested to support all staff who work in Brynteg, from headteacher to caretakers.

"We are very pleased and proud to have this award. I would like to think we are a caring and supportive organisation with very high expectations and standards, who look after all its staff as well as possible and tries to ensure they fulfil their potential. This award confirms this."

It follows on from other prestigious awards recently achieved. The NAAACE ICT MARK award recognises the school's success in developing the strategic use of ICT in both administration and across the curriculum.

Parents will have proof that their children are attending a school at the forefront of modern technology.

Headteacher David Jenkins commented: "The ICT Mark recognises our positive approach to ICT and the benefits it is bringing to our children. We believe that ICT can be used to support every aspect of learning and teaching which equips our children for the modern world."

ICT subject leader Richard George commented: "I am really pleased that the presentation of this award shows recognition of the excellent ICT work that is taking place at Brynteg School."

"Applying for the award really brought into focus the ICT work that

we are doing each and every day. All the children, young people and staff deserve credit for this achievement."

Recently, some pupils from the school appeared in the ITV Wales this Week programme on digital literacy and security. Bernadette Brooks, NAAACE general manager, said Brynteg thoroughly deserved the accolade of an ICT Mark accreditation: "They clearly demonstrate how important it is to take a whole school approach to using ICT in schools. We look forward to working with Brynteg to demonstrate how ICT can have a substantial impact on learner outcomes in the future."

Other awards achieved recently have been the Investors in Families Award – 'A Family Friendly School'.

Assistant headteacher Julie Phillips says that receiving the 'Investors in Families' accreditation: "reflects the strong commitment we have as a school to working together with our pupils, their families and external agencies, in order to support each and every individual."

"It is recognition of the fact that we respect pupils and their families and ensure that they have access to a wide range of opportunities and experiences, so that all pupils realise their potential, develop self esteem and become fulfilled individuals."

"The award also confirms that we value the work of our external providers and recognise the important role the local community plays in the life of the school."

Brynteg has also achieved the Careers Wales Mark, which recognises excellence in schools for the quality of careers education and support for pupils.

Finally, the Young Enterprise organisation have recognised the long term contribution by Brynteg to their efforts to make pupils the young entrepreneurs of the future.

This Young Enterprise Excellence award recognises the quality of enterprise provision and in particular the work of technology teacher Jon Catton and his associates.

Headteacher David Jenkins describes achieving each of the awards as validation and recognition of the hard work and dedication of staff within the school. He says: "As a school community of pupils, staff, parents and governors, we are delighted to have been successful in each of our submissions, since they both reflect and recognise the excellence of provision within the school across a spectrum of measures."

ROBERT HOPKINS
Deputy headteacher

KNIGHTS

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**Brynhill Bungalow, Barry - £675,000**

Set on approx an acre of landscaped gardens
Four double bedrooms, all with built in storage • Solid oak kitchen • Shower room and two bathrooms • Driveway with parking for up to ten vehicles • Double garage • Outbuilding with conversion potential.

**Porth y Castell, West End Barry - £559,950**

Uninterrupted panoramic sea views • Four bedrooms • Two separate reception rooms and three double bedrooms with views • Fitted kitchen with integrated appliances • Downstairs shower room and first floor bathroom • Large, mature landscaped rear garden.

**Romilly Park Road, Barry - £424,950**

Five double bedroom detached • Three/four reception rooms • Fitted kitchen • Conservatory • Utility room and downstairs w/c • First floor shower room and bathroom • Walk in wardrobe, balcony and en-suite • Double driveway and integral garage.

**Porth y Castell, West End Barry - £375,000 - no chain**

Situated in the sought after Garden Suburbs with uninterrupted sea views • Three double bedrooms semi detached • Three reception rooms • Good size south facing garden • Driveway

**The Westings, West End, Barry - £355,000**

Five double bedroom detached • Views across the Bristol Channel • Two reception rooms • Fitted kitchen • Utility room/ground floor shower room • South facing garden • Garage and driveway

**St Barucs House, Highfield Close, Park Road, Barry - £330,000**

Ground floor apartment • Secure video entry • Three double bedrooms with ensuite to master bedroom • Generous kitchen/family area • Pergola/patio area • Two allocated parking bays • Easy access to Cardiff via train and bus links

**Heol Fioled, Pencoedre Village, Barry - £289,950**

Four bedroom detached property • Lounge, dining room, study and family room • Modern kitchen/breakfast room • Utility room • Downstairs wc, family bathroom and two ensuite shower rooms • Private landscaped garden.

**Ivy Cottage, Gileston Village - £285,000**

Two double bedroom detached property • Distant sea views • Two reception areas • Hand crafted kitchen • conservatory • Utility room and cloakroom • Bathroom with shower cubicle and bath • Driveway and garage.

**St Nicholas Road, Barry - £249,500**

Six bedroom semi detached • Two reception rooms • Kitchen and Utility room • Downstairs shower room and first floor bathroom • Enclosed rear garden • Off road parking for one vehicle • Far reaching views across Barry waterfront and out to sea.

**Gladstone Road, Barry - £235,000**

Four double bedroom semi detached • Many original features • Three reception rooms • Modern fitted kitchen • Ensuite to master bedroom • Built in storage to three bedrooms • Enclosed rear garden with handstanding Off road parking.

**3 Esgid Mair, Pencoedre Village, Barry - £229,950**

Four bedroom detached • Two reception rooms • Conservatory • Modern kitchen/Breakfast room • Utility room • Downstairs wc, ensuite shower room and family bathroom • Front and rear gardens.

**Cambourne Close, Highlight Park, Barry - £224,500**

Three bedroom detached bungalow • 19ft 5ins lounge/dining room with bay window • Fitted kitchen with appliances • Two double bedrooms and one single • Generous rear garden with shed • Off road parking and garage

**Romilly Views, Highfields Close, Park Road, Barry - £225,000**

Range of 2 bed, ground and 1st floor newly developed apartments • Set in an exclusive gated community • Modern kitchen with integrated appliances • Full video door entry system • Allocated parking

**Lakin Drive, Highlight Park, Barry - Reduced to £224,500**

Two/three bedroom bungalow • 17ft 10ins lounge/dining room • Modern fitted kitchen • Conservatory • Shower room and cloakroom • Enclosed gardens to front, side and rear • Driveway and single garage.

**Gelyn y Cler, Pencoedre Village, Barry - £219,950**

Four bedroom detached • Two reception rooms • Conservatory • Kitchen/breakfast room • Utility room • Downstairs wc, family bathroom and ensuite • Enclosed south-facing rear garden • garage

**Heol y Dryw Rhooe Point - £219,950**

Four Bedroom town house • Sitting room, kitchen and conservatory to ground level • Modern fitted kitchen • Further lounge to first floor • Family bathroom, two ensuite shower rooms • Enclosed south facing garden • Driveway for two vehicles • Coastal walks on doorstep

**St Lythans Road, Barry - £239,950**

Three bedroom semi detached bungalow • Lounge and family room • Conservatory/Dining room • Newly installed kitchen, shower room and ensuite bathroom • Enclosed generous size rear garden • Driveway and off road parking • Single garage.

**Gilbert Lane, Barry - £199,950**

4 Bedroom detached • Lounge through dining room • Kitchen/breakfast room • Utility room and downstairs wc • Bathroom and ensuite to master bedroom • Enclosed south west facing rear garden • Driveway providing off road parking for two/three vehicles • Garage.

**Southesk Place, Barry - £175,000**

Three bedroom semi detached • Situated in the highly sought after Knap area • Lounge • Dining room • Fitted kitchen • Downstairs w/c and first floor shower room • Fitted kitchen • Mature enclosed south-facing garden • In walking distance of Parade and Knap gardens.

**The Heathers, Barry - £174,995 - No Chain**

Situated in the West End of Barry • Four bedroom detached • Two reception rooms • Downstairs w/c • Fitted kitchen • Conservatory • Low maintenance rear garden • Driveway and integral garage • Within easy access of Cardiff and M4 Corridor

**Kipling Close, Penarth - £169,000**

Three bedroom mid link property • Cul-de-sac location • Two reception rooms • Fitted kitchen with built-in cooker • Downstairs wc, first floor bathroom and separate shower room • Generous landscaped garden, mainly laid to lawn • Patio area, vegetable garden and greenhouse.

**Ty Gambig, Clos yr Wylan, Nells Point, Barry Island - OIRO £159,950 - no chain**

Three bedroom ground floor apartment • Lounge/dining room with French doors opening on to generous terrace • Fitted kitchen with integral appliances • Bathroom and ensuite shower room • In walking distance to beaches and shops.

**Purdey Close, Barry - £155,950**

Set in cul-de-sac location • Three bedroom end link property • Lounge • Dining room with patio doors opening on to garden patio • Kitchen with built in cooker • Modern white bathroom • Enclosed garden • Parking space and garage

**Meadowvale, Barry - Offers in the region of £155,000**

Modern three bedroom detached property • Lounge/Dining room • Modern fitted kitchen • Conservatory • Family bathroom and cloakroom • Enclosed rear garden • Driveway for three vehicles • Garage • Viewing recommended

**Greenacres, Barry - £149,950**

Three bedroom semi detached • Cul-de-sac location • Lounge • Dining room • Modern fitted kitchen and bathroom • Loft room • Enclosed rear garden • Driveway for two vehicles • Viewing recommended.

**Rhodfa Sweldon, The Waterfront, Barry - £139,950**

Three bedroom semi detached property • Modern kitchen/diner with integrated appliances • Enclosed south-facing rear garden • Double driveway • In walking distance to Waterfront Retail Park and Barry Docks train station.

**Court Road, Barry - £139,000**

Spacious four bedroom traditional semi detached property situated in the East End of Barry • Three reception rooms • Fitted kitchen • First floor bathroom • Enclosed rear garden • Within walking distance to Barry Road shops

**Murlande Way, Rhooe Village - £129,995**

Two bedroom end terrace property with partial sea views • Lounge and conservatory • Fitted kitchen some integrated appliances • First floor bathroom • Enclosed rear garden with additional area of land • Double driveway • Detached garage.

**Amherst Crescent, Barry Island - Now £125,000 - No Chain**

Four bedroom terraced property • Two reception rooms • Kitchen with some appliances • First floor shower room • Front and rear gardens • Outhouses, shed and greenhouse

**Fonnon Park Road, Rhooe - £109,950**

Three bedroom semi detached • 24ft 2ins lounge through dining room • Kitchen with built-in oven/inset hob • Conservatory • First floor shower room • Front and rear gardens • Single garage and parking space • Offered for sale with no chain.



Bridgend Athletic under-15s individual winners celebrate their season with Rhys Webb. Left to Right: Ashton Chalmers, Sam Jervis, Rhys Webb, Ben Jones, Player Of The Year Sam Matthews and Mark Teasdale.

Bridgend Athletic under-15s celebrate end of the season

BRIDGEND Athletic RFC under-15s held their end of season presentation awards at their Ewenny Road club house on Saturday, May 19.

They celebrated a tough but enjoyable season with special guest for the evening, with Ospreys and Wales international scrum half Rhys Webb in attendance to hand out the awards.

The squad of 27 boys played 22 games, won 13 and lost 9 scoring 537 points and conceding 331. They competed strongly in the Regional Ospreys Cup competition beating strong opposition from Waunarlwydd, Tonmawr and Pontardulais to get to the semi-finals, where they lost narrowly away to Swansea side Bonymaen.

Twelve of the team represented the Bridgend District Schools Dewar

Shield squad throughout the season, those players being Jack Hogan, Sam Jervis, Tom McArdle, Sam Matthews, Craig Lewis, Harrison Evans, Ethan Candlish-Nott, Tomos Pritchard, Matthew Bennett, Ben Jones, Toby Galliers, and Cian House.

Ben Jones, Matthew Bennett and Sam Matthews were congratulated, having also been selected for the Ospreys under-16s squad who begin training in June.

All players received kit and a trophy for their efforts throughout the season and there were individual awards as well handed out.

Connor Browne received his five-year award for playing in his fifth consecutive season with the Ath. The Clubman - (Daryl Dyke Spirit of Rugby Award) went to Sam Jervis in his first season at the club.

The most improved player was presented to wing Ashton Chalmers,

the most promising player award went to another wing, Mark Teasdale and the floating award for best back this year went to full back Ben Jones.

The biggest cheer of the night was for the under-15s Player of the Year which was won by outstanding forward Sam Matthews who throughout the season played at No.8 and prop.

Coach Tony Bennett brought the under-15s season to a close by thanking Rhys Webb for his attendance and wished him and the Ospreys well for the Rabodirect Pro 12 final against Leinster next weekend.

He wished Rhys well for the forthcoming tour with Wales to Australia.

He also thanked all his players, coaching and match day staff plus team manager Angela for their hard work and effort throughout the year and sponsors Argies Coffee, Ian Lewis Building and Gardening services.

Cutting Edge Cleaning Facilities Ltd and Cenin Ltd for their help and financial support throughout the past season.

The team will return for under-16s pre-season training in the summer and any young man interested in playing rugby in an enjoyable and competitive team environment can find details at www.bridgendathletic-rfc.com.

TB

Police on tour

SOUTH Wales Police RFC recently returned from a successful tour of Barbados, defeating a development XV 83-0 and the Barbados National Side 33-0

After each match, all the kit was given away to help promote and develop rugby in Barbados and to make it even more memorable, a visit from the Great Garfield Sobers topped the trip off.

The group had chance to ask the brilliant cricketer and all round sports person questions.

The Police will shortly release their new coaching group to work alongside current coach Paul Standing and announce the dates for their new youth side to start training.

KM

Rollers slay Swansea

CARDIFF Roller Collective, which is made up of skaters from Bridgend and Cardiff took on Swansea City Slayers on Saturday.

It was a close fought game with Swansea winning by 22 points at the end of the first half. Cardiff Roller Collective brought it back and managed to win the game with a final score of 204 to Cardiff Roller Collective and 147 to Swansea City Slayers.

NG

A CHANCE TO TRY OUT SQUASH AT 'THE REC'

On Saturday, May 26, Dave Howe will be holding a squash morning at Bridgend Recreation Centre.

The morning will allow juniors who have been practising their squash skills on the mini walls the opportunity to play on a real squash court.

Some two years ago Wales Squash and Racketball Academy coach, Premier squash player and Cynffig PE teacher Dave Howe, in partnership with Squash Wales and Bridgend County Borough Sports Development Unit, started the Cynffig Junior Squash Club, based at Bridgend Recreation Centre.

Dave Howe is an inspirational coach and the club soon became a great success.

Over the past few weeks Squash Wales and



ABOVE: Cynffig pupils have been trying out a new sport.

Bridgend Sports Development have been running a schools' squash lunchtime programme in Cynffig, with many pupils enjoying the sessions on the mini squash walls put up in the sports arena in Cynffig.

Dave will be holding

a squash morning at Bridgend Recreation Centre Saturday where Bridgend Sports Development will be transporting these schools programme pupils to the centre so that they can play on the squash courts.

Well done Dave for

DB

Warrior Gethin battles to light middleweight championship



Bridgend's Gethin Bevan-Jones is the new Amateur FCR light middleweight champion.

FULL Contact Fighters, Gethin Bevan-Jones, Matt Morgans and Daniel Evans from Welsh Kickboxing Union (WKU), competed on Saturday, May 12, at the Red Dragon Championship Fight Night at Neath Sports centre, Swansea.

Before a crowded house, both Daniel and Matt did their club. The Scorpions, proud, in both cases losing only by a split decision.

The night, however, belonged to Gethin from Bridgend Warriors. Thirteenth on the bill, Gethin fought an equally paced fight with opponent Martin Jones from Pembrokeshire over the first two rounds.

By the third round,

Gethin was able to demonstrate his superior fitness levels. While his opponent began to tire, Gethin was able to draw on his reserves and came back even stronger with a series of body shots and snap kicks that enabled him to dominate the round through to the final bell.

He takes the Amateur FCR light middleweight championship.

This was only Gethin's second full contact fight. He has won both.

Gethin has been training regularly with coaches Jeff Copp, Gemma James and Claire Vicker since 2010 at Bridgend Warriors club above Cody's in Bridgend.

Bridgend Warriors meet above Cody's in Bridgend. For more information, find us on Facebook, Twitter or at: www.kickboxingbridgend.co.uk.

Lady bowlers travel well

LLANTWIT Major lady bowlers welcomed Porthcawl Prince of Wales Court on Tuesday for a Cowbridge Challenge Shield match.

Llantwit didn't start very well, with one rink not scoring until the eighth end and one on the fourth end, but managed to pull back and those two rinks only lost by one shot each, and the third rink won by two shots, so the overall score was shared but Llantwit only gained four points from the 10 available.

Rink scores: Edna Hardie, Vera Wickenden, Marian Lewis and Eryl Nicholls 19 - 18; Kay Johnes, Lyn Oatley,

Margaret Morgan and Peggy Pike 15 - 16; Barbara Lewis, Margaret Horgan, Carol Willmot and May Davies 18 - 16.

On Thursday the team travelled to Barry Athletic BC for a league match, a different game altogether, with everyone starting well and they went on to win on all rinks, gaining the full 10 points

Rink scores: Edna Hardie, Margaret Horgan, May Davies and Carol Willmot 18 - 12. Barbara Lewis, Eryl Nicholls and Marian Lewis 6 - 13. Kay Johnes, Vera Wickenden, Peggy Pike and Margaret Morgan 17 - 14.

KJ

Call for a 'Living Wage' in Wales

I AM writing to ask your readers to support Save the Children's campaign for a Living Wage for Wales.

We launched this campaign because the young people we work with told us that they were more concerned about finding well paid employment when they grow up, than any other issue.

These Welsh young people told us about the daily struggles they see their friends' parents encountering because of low household incomes and spoke of their own worries about finding a decent wage to live on when they are older.

At Save the Children we believe we can do

better for our children and their families. That is why we are calling upon First Minister Carwyn Jones and the Welsh Government to lead and support a campaign to make a living wage of £7.20 the norm across Wales.

Save the Children believes Wales should turn its back on poverty pay and offer a better deal to its young people and we want the Welsh Government to lead the way.

The campaign has raised a petition on the National Assembly website, (www.assembly-wales.org) - just search for petitions and then Living Wage. James Pritchard, Head of Wales Save the Children, Cardiff.

Ninjas and Warriors pick up gold medals!



ABOVE: Sophie Davies, Morgan Pagnet, Teiolo Bevan, Jack Davies and Tezney Murphy

JUNIOR kickboxers from Bridgend Little Ninjas and Junior Warriors showed off their skills and made their coaches proud on Sunday, May 13.

Travelling to Aberdare for the Welsh Open Championships, the juniors brought back yet another haul of trophies to local WKU (Welsh Kickboxing Union) club Bridgend Warriors.

Regular competitor Morgan Pagnet, currently sponsored by Bridgend company Birkett LGA, demonstrated her usual talent and ability, winning gold in her light contact category.

Jack Davies also won a gold for light contact with Harvey Renn taking the bronze in his semi contact fight. Also competing were Tezney Murphy, Sophie Davies and Teiolo Bevan.

"I am really proud of all the fighters

who competed," said Claire Vicker second degree black belt and junior instructor at Bridgend Warriors, "they have all worked really hard their medals are well deserved."

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The application is for permission to supply alcohol from 4pm-12am on Monday to Saturday, and 4pm-11pm on Sunday.

Any person wishing to make representations in respect of this application may do so in writing to the Licensing Department, Vale of Glamorgan Council Civic Offices, Holton Road, Barry CF63 4RU not later than 28 days after the date of this notice. Representations received after this date will not be considered. A copy of the application can be viewed at the Civic Offices during normal office hours.

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Keith Morgan, Sian & Jason Yates
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Following the funeral of **Susan Morgan (Sue)**
we would like to thank so many for their support over the past few weeks and particularly on the 15th May, 2012.

Everyone who sent messages of support, cards, flowers, letters and visited the house have really helped us at this very difficult and sad time; people have been great.

Rev David Boulton and Sam Smith were marvellous at Holy Cross Church, while Natalie and the staff at Quarter Penny Restaurant provided refreshments of the highest quality on the day.

Family Notices

OSTERBERG

Peacefully, at Aberdeen Royal Infirmary (through lack of breath) on Friday, May 18, 2012 Ernest Raymond Osterberg (Ray), aged 95 years, beloved husband of the late Doreen Young, dearly loved dad of Karen, a dear father-in-law of Ross and loving granddad to Charley.
Service to be held in Aberdeen. Donations if desired for Grampian Wildlife Rehabilitation Trust, C/O G Burgess & Son, Funeral Directors, Station Road, Ellon, AB41 9AR, 01358 720259

MEREDITH

Michael

Leo, Giles and Sarah would like to thank everyone for the affection and support you have shown since the death of our beloved Michael.

The love and regard in which he was held has been overwhelming and has given us strength during this sad time.

Birthdays

Pat Jamieson

Hope you had a lovely birthday, all our love, your friends and family

x x x



Bill Robinson

Happy 80th Birthday

All our love from Diana, Mandy, Gaynor, Nathan, Tony and Tim. xxx



Happy 21st Birthday

Peter Fordham

on May 19
Love from all your family. XXX



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PARSONS (née James) Glenys

The family of Glenys Parsons of Southey Street, Barry, sadly announce her peaceful passing on Sunday, 20th May at Llandough Hospital. Funeral Service 11am on Friday, 1st June at AG Adams, Barry.

UNDERWOOD

Vivian Charles 'Charlie'

19-11-20 - 19-5-12

Sadly, we have to announce the death of our father, who passed away on May 19, 2012 at College Fields Nursing Home, Barry. Formerly of Barry and Llantwit Major.

A loving husband to the late Rona, loving father to Ann, Gail and Susan. Wonderful father-in-law, a devoted grandfather and great grandfather. Although our father was only in the nursing home for a few days, we would like to thank Rachel, Ann and all the staff for the dignity, respect and wonderful care they gave.

Resting at WA Brown & Son, Pembroke House, College Street, Llantwit Major, until the service at the Tabernacle Presbyterian Church, Methodist Lane, Llantwit Major on Wednesday May 30 at 11am, followed by interment at Boverton Cemetery.

Family flowers only please, if wished donations for Velindre Hospital (cheques only, please) may be sent or given to the funeral director.

SCOUSE Norman

Peacefully on the 17th May 2012, Norman of Llantwit Major. Dearly loved husband of the late Joan and father of Elizabeth. Resting at W.A. Brown & Son, College St, Llantwit Major until the funeral service in Coychurch Crematorium on Monday 28th May at 2.45pm. Family flowers only, but donations may be made to Llantwit Major Bowls Club c/o the Funeral Director (cheques only please)

WILLIAMS Islwyn George

Glenys and family would like to extend their heartfelt thanks to all those who have been there for us during what has been a very sad and difficult time.

The support and care of all the medical and nursing staff, particularly those from the Cowbridge Health Centre, have been both welcomed and appreciated by us all, as have the countless offers and demonstrations of help and support from our many friends and neighbours. It is a comfort to know that we live among such kind and generous people.

Like the memory of our dearly departed husband and father, Islwyn, your efforts will never be forgotten.

SYGROVE Stephen (Stevie)

Stephen (Stevie), aged two years and two months, died unexpectedly in his sleep, at home in Aberthyn, Cowbridge on 10th May. We have been fortunate to have had Stephen in our lives for the past 15 months. He has brought us Joy, sunshine and laughter, every single day. We have been truly Blessed for the happiness he brought us. Mark, Sandra and Stevie's sister Amy, send thanks to friends and neighbours, all at Holy Cross Church, the Police, Paramedics and especially to everyone at Pathway Care for their support and encouragement at this very sad time.

The funeral will be held at St. Pauls Church, Grangetown, Cardiff on Tuesday May 29th at 10.15am followed by interment at Thornhill cemetery.

Stephen will be missed by us all, always.

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COWBRIDGE COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL SPORTS REPORT

Practice makes perfect

RIGHT:
PICTURED: (left to right) John Humphreys, David Humphreys, Tom Kamal and Alex Kurobasa.

Athletics
MARC HERBERT handed the baton to Daniel Evans during a recent year-10 Athletics practice (see picture below right).

The year-10 team have been preparing for the upcoming knockout cup competition that is scheduled for the middle of June. The school is running a number of selection trials during the lunch hour in the build up to the competition.

Rugby
MANY congratulations to Gus Rees-McPherson on gaining his under-18s Welsh Schools rugby cap.

Gus has had an excellent season with the school side and with Cardiff Blues under-18s. As a result of some outstanding performances, Gus was selected for the Welsh under-18s tour to Spain in March.

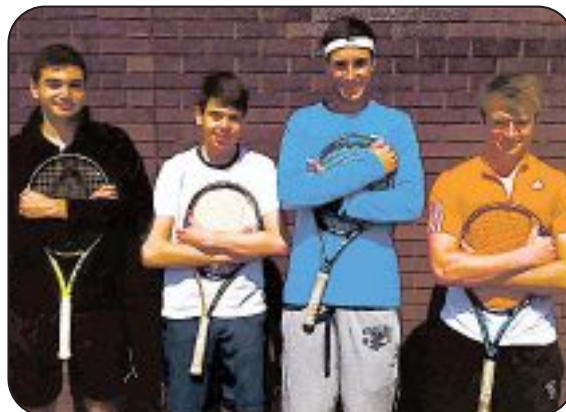
During the tournament, he represented his country against Italy, England and France. After impressing selectors throughout the tournament, Gus has also signed a contract to join the Cardiff Blues academy of elite performers.

After narrowly missing out on selection to the Welsh under-16s squad two years ago, Gus has set a fantastic example to all of our pupils that hard work and dedication will always reward you with the targets that you set yourself. Well done, Gus!

Skiing
COWBRIDGE girls and boys ski team competed in the British Schools Indoor Snow Championships at the Chill Factor in Manchester recently.

It was Emily Hopkins, Sarah Williams and Amy Taylor's last race for Cowbridge, as they will all be moving on to university next year.

In Emily's last race, she performed really well on the surface she does not prefer. Emily posted excellent times



RIGHT:
Girls A team, Manchester

on her first and second run of 15.45 to come fifth overall. Sarah Williams also posted two good times of 17.16 and 18.02 to come 16th overall.

Amy Taylor raced well for her first time on this surface, posting 20.96 and 21.13 to come 33rd out of 41. Hannah Taylor also competed in the girl's race. However, in the first race, Hannah missed one of the posts, and she hiked back up but then straddled the post so she was disqualified.

In the second run, Hannah missed the last post to get disqualified, although she did ski well through the race.

The girls came sixth overall out of 12 teams, a really great effort by all the girls. There was also a parallel slalom race where two teams raced against each other in a relay. Cowbridge faced Abbots Hill B Team in the first round and won, taking the girls into the quarter finals against Clitheroe Royal Grammar School.

Unfortunately, Cowbridge lost after a great start from Emily Hopkins saw Amy Taylor keep the lead.

Hannah had a ski pop off and tried to complete the course on one ski, only for Clitheroe to then overtake and win. Abbey Gate went on to win the girls race.

In the boy's race, Ben Thomas led the boys team home, posting two good times of 17.05 and 17.70 coming 14th overall. Nicky Griffiths was second for the Cowbridge team, posting 17.68 and 17.65 coming 17th overall.

Harry Hopkins then posted 19.01 and 18.05



Athletics practice.

to come 19th overall. Ben Jones completed the team, posting 19.52 and 18.66, for 25th out of 37. The boys' team came fifth out of 11 teams.

In the parallel slalom, the boys competed against Abbey Gate College in the first round, winning comfortably. In the quarter final, Cowbridge faced Ribblesdale and again won by a near margin.

Cowbridge then faced Reeds B team. Reeds proved too good for Cowbridge, although Ben Thomas started well, finishing neck and neck. Harry Hopkins took the lead, Ben Jones was neck and neck and Nicky Griffiths was overtaken by the Reeds competitor.

Reeds A v Reeds B were in the final. Reeds A team won.

A great weekend of skiing by the competitors. Well done.

Tennis
The Senior Boys tennis team lost last week against Backwell School in Bristol in the semi finals of Wales and West England National Championships.



ABOVE:
Gus Rees-McPherson

Captain Tom Kamal fought hard but lost against the top seed from Backwell 6-4, 6-1. With the Humphreys brothers David and Jonathan gaining similar results, fourth seed Alex Kurobasa had a must win game.

Alex was struggling with sore legs from a rugby fixture the previous night and was convincingly beaten.

Backwell ran out convincing winners 6-0 and will do well in the national championships at Queenswood in July. Credit must go to Tom and the team for reaching the semi final stages yet again.

Once again, Cowbridge went the furthest of any Welsh school in this competition. Well done, boys!

Under strength Cowbridge in narrow loss in Swansea

THE Cowbridge West Wales cricket team finally got their season started last Saturday at Swansea Civil Service after a number of cancelled games in the opening weeks of the season.

Acting captain Jon Brazier won the toss and asked Civil Service to bat. Opening bowlers Tim Moss and Ryan Thomas bowled economically without much luck as a number of aerial shots landed in vacant areas of the field.

A number of young bowlers were given chances to show what they could do. They again had little luck, but gained valuable experience.

Civil Service were past the 100-run mark before Jack Griffiths tempted the opposition skipper to loft the ball to his opposite number who took the catch high above his head.

When the opening bowlers came back on, suddenly the wickets began to tumble. Tim Moss, at one point on a hat-trick, took 4-45, and Ryan Thomas took 2-31.

After their allotted 45 overs,

Cowbridge were set a total of 177 to chase and did not get off to a great start, losing the skipper in the third over.

From then on, Tim Moss and Ryan Taylor had a great partnership with Ryan scoring 28 and Tim an impressive 63.

Another useful contribution in the lower order was from Waqar Saadet (20) that saw Cowbridge to a respectable 135 all out, not a bad effort for an under strength team against good opposition.

This week sees the first home game on the School Field against Dafen

Point-to-point impresses

THRILLS and spills were the order of the day at the popular Lower Machen course where a total of 91 horses faced the starter.

Both the restricted and the young horse maiden were divided on the field and Fios Las Racecourse supremo Dai Walters, who enjoys his point-to-pointing, and who lives not a stone's throw from the course, cannot have failed to have been impressed with the large number of entries.

Also impressed with the large number of horses taking part was evergreen Welsh trainer Dai Burchell.

Ogmore's Nick Williams, younger brother of sidelined National Hunt jockey Christian, took the mixed open race on Paul Miles's remarkable Findlay's Find, who

reversed the Lady Dudley Cup placings with David Llewellyn's Rosies Peacock.

Nick had the six-year-old chestnut gelding, who had been runner-up in his three previous starts, in a prominent position throughout and after taking a clear lead four fences from home went on to win by eight lengths from the even-money favourite ridden by John Mathias.

Nick later went on to win the first division of the young horse maiden on Stephen Parkhouse's A Bit Of Class who, after jumping the last in front, held on by a neck from David Llewellyn's Karazaaf (John Mathias).

The luckiest winner of the day was surely Emlyn Parry's Leprechaun's Gold (Josh Harris) which came from a long way behind in the members' race to beat the tiring Early Matinee

(Alan Johns) after the 1-3 favourite Carrick Oscar (Connor Flint), who had tried to make all, fell two fences from the finish.

Leprechaun's Gold, an eight-year-old chestnut gelding, which was winning for the first time in 53 outings, was placed on the flat when trained by Bernard Llewellyn who incidentally was just as delighted as the winning owner with the horse's success.

Ex-National Hunt performer Dunbrody House, believed to be a first time winner for owner/trainer Karen Bowen (she was absent having taken her children pony racing) was a six lengths winner of the confined race under Darach Skelly.

The runner-up Oakfield Legend (Connor Flint) had tried to make all the running but Dunbrody House ran on well in the closing stages and clocked the same time - six minutes twenty-four seconds - as

Findlay's Find would take forty minutes or so later.

In the second division of the young horse maiden, Paul Tolman's AllStar Night (Alan Johns) benefited from the falls of Hazarose and In The West, who both fell independently of each other when challenging for the

lead three fences from home.

Robbie Henderson paying a first visit to a Welsh point-to-point came away with mixed feelings after landing the first division of the restricted on Stuart Jarrett's five-year-old chestnut Before The War which had four lengths to spare over the favourite Billy Cuckoo (Nick Williams) as someone in the jockeys' tent had apparently lifted his saddle pads.

The second division also went to a five-year-old when Samantha Butler's Moscow Me (John Mathias) came home six lengths clear of Gouranga Society whose rider Paul Sheard did remarkably well to say in the saddle after almost being unshipped when leading the field at the 10th fence.

Backers of favourites had to wait until the eighth and last race when four seconds - as Glyn Llewellyn's Railway Diva, a 4-5 chance, ran out a six lengths winner of the aged horse maiden under Mathew Barber. Railway Diva, who is trained by former Welsh National Hunt jockey Dai Tegg, was a first winner for Mr Llewellyn and is the first horse he has ever owned.

BRIAN LEE

NFU golf day raises funds

A fundraising charity golf day organised by local NFU Mutual Insurance group secretaries David Harris and Julian Kelly raised just over £4,500 in aid of the Bridgend & District branch of the Alzheimer's society.

Played at the Grove Golf Club near Porthcawl, the event attracted 136 entries all competing for the quality prizes courtesy of many local sponsors.

Results: winners of the team event with 116 stableford points representing PCL Surveyors were Martin Jones, Howard Phillips, Jon Burrows and Steve Sheppard.

Runners-up with 111 points were Boobyer's Boys were Neil Boobyer, Carl Yardley, Randall Edward and Dean Lewis.

In third place with 108 points (the Celtic Park legends) were Rhydian Harris, Simon Sweeney, Tom Scott and Luke Tuckfield.

In fourth place with 103 points were Principality Plastics represented by Paul Davies, David Carey, Richard Jeremy and Darnell Hamonda.

Best endeavour prize

was awarded to NFU Cymru Wales with 52 points represented by Peter Howells, Huw Thomas, Dylan Morgan and Elwyn Gwilym.

Nearest the pin on a par 3, sponsored by The Red Fox, Penllyn, was Barrie Owen (hole 4).

Hole 7 (sponsored by The Grove Golf Club), was Barrie Melhuish

Hole 12 (sponsored by Coed Yr Mwstwr), was Dan Jarvis

Hole 18 (sponsored by Huddarts Restaurant, Cowbridge), Martin Jones

Longest Drive Ladies sponsored by Mr Glyn Watts-Jones - Mrs Beryl Vaughan

Longest Drive Men sponsored by Llanerch Vineyard and Restaurant - Mr Neil Boobyer

Ladies individual winner with 29 points was Miss Danielle Blackman; runner up Mrs Caroline Kelly with 25 points

Men's individual winner with 41 points Mr Dean Lewis; runner up with 37 points Mr John Burrows

Correctly guessing the number of lost balls sponsored by Mr Islwyn Rees Mr Jon Lot.

The organisers are grateful to all the sponsors and entrants for supporting this event.

T McC

John Painter's Diamond Jubilee

IT'S hard to believe that 2012 is the Diamond Jubilee; not only for our Queen, but also John Painter's association with Miskin Manor Cricket Club.

My father fondly remembers the day he sneaked off school to watch Glamorgan play at Miskin. There started a relationship that has lasted 60 years.

I sometimes feel that without Miskin there would be no John Painter and vice versa. The man lives for the club and all that it represents.

Everyone knows what he does without me having to compile a long list. His 'hands on' work, his behind the scenes arrangements, like getting the boards done; most recently securing three flag poles from Lanelay Hall, his umpiring, assistance with teas,

and, of course, his love of playing cricket.

In 2011, dad was awarded the 'Special Lifetime Achievement Award' from RCT County Borough Council. This was an incredibly proud moment for him and meant so much to me too.

He is proud of every trophy and award he has received from the club; and his life membership awarded in 1984 is still displayed proudly in his home.

To celebrate dad's 'Jubilee', we are having a John Painter XI v Keith Davies XI cricket match on Sunday June 10. We are hoping this will be well supported to make money for the club. I am sure that dad will continue his love for the club forever, and it would be nice in his 60th year if we could achieve promotion or do well in the Village Cup.

Donna Holder

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UNDER-13 TEAM SEEKS PLAYERS

CADOXTON Imps Football Club in Barry is searching for new players for next season.

Any footballer under 13 years of age before September 1, 2012, and who is at present a year-

7 pupil, should come to a training session, Wednesday evenings from 6pm-7.30pm at Pencoedtre Field. Other age groups are available.

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**Girls team looking for more players**

THE Vale Ladies and Girls Football Club has recently launched to provide football opportunities for girls to enjoy playing the sport.

The club offers girls football for ages 7-16, as well as offering the opportunity for over-16s to join a new ladies team - subject to interest.

New players are always welcome to come and try girls football at weekly training sessions in Barry.

For more information, contact 07772 022435, email: info@valegirlsfc.co.uk or visit the website: www.valegirlsfc.co.uk

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04/04 MITSUBISHI Space Star. A/c, s/r, cd, fsh, MoT Apr 2013 £1,995

03 RENAULT Clio. Met silver, 3-dr, MoT til May 13, 1 former owner, s/r, digital a/c & c/c £2,295

03 FORD KA 56,000 miles, long tax & MoT £1,995

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GEM sport

Bridgend boys earn international honours



LEFT: Morgan Jefferies, Daniel Maiden, Alex King, Ben Jones and Rhys Brownsell have all been selected for Welsh international honours.

FIVE Bridgend District boys have been selected to represent Wales Rugby League Academy under-15s.

Morgan Jefferies, Daniel Maiden, Alex King, Ben Jones and Rhys Brownsell have been selected to represent the team for this season's Super League Scholarship program.

The boys will play against some of the Super League greats, including Wigan Warriors, who will be their next opponents.

On Sunday May 6, the boys travelled to play at Huddersfield Giants, a well-drilled and experienced side. They suffered a narrow defeat, 28-22, having led 18-10 at half-time before the long coach journey

took its toll.

The boys all impressed in this their first game, and now look forward to the rest of the season with confidence.

If you are interested in playing rugby league, you are welcome to join the boys and train with Bridgend Blue Bulls every Thursday at 6pm at The Bandstand, Newbridge Fields, Bridgend.

SK



Phoenix fall just short in close game

LEFT: Katie Murphy attempts to break through a tackle. PHOTOS BY JULIE HANCOCK

THE last game of the season saw Phoenix travel to Whitland with players who have just comeback from long term injury and those who consequently would have to play out of position.

A victory would mean a second place position for Phoenix in their first season in Division 1 after winning the development league last year.

Birthday girl Lowri Reeves was appointed captain for the day, and both teams started with a good attitude.

The scrum worked well for Phoenix and Amie Stevens popped up with 20 metre dash and was brought down, resulting in a penalty try; two more penalties followed.

It then looked like nothing was on but Phoenix's Hannah Seward backed her pace from the kick off and beat three girls to head for the corner.

Whitland fought back to take the lead. Katie Murphy, Hannah Seward, Amie Stevens, Natalie O'Shea and Lowri led by example, covering ground and preventing Whitland tries.

Both sides enjoyed periods of exerting pressure on the opposition.

The Phoenix pack provided the stepping stones to provide possession for the backs.

Another try came from Hannah Seward



and then second row Hannah Brunskill brushed off Whitland's defence and glided in with her first try of the season.

Phoenix had two minutes to make up a 6 points difference but just couldn't finish at the Whitland line, and it was a nail biting finish.

Whitland hung on for dear life at the end, but Phoenix were so determined and all girls put their exhausted bodies on the line to finish the season on a high, just losing out 26-20. Ladies of match were Amie Stevens and Mel C.

Phoenix have produced a good platform for the next season having finished second in the league and wish to thank coaches, and sponsors for their help this season.

All are welcome for the presentation night on May 26 at Pencoed RFC; contact the club on 01656 860152.

JH

ABOVE: Stephanie Niblett, Natalie O'Shea and Kathryn Stonehouse in the tackle.

CRICKETERS LOSE OUT

Bridgend Town C.C. entertained Port Talbot C.C. under-12s at Newbridge fields.

In very blustery conditions, the Port Talbot attack dealt far better with the strong wind restricting the home side to 237 with extras of 23.

Port Talbot reached 263 with Bridgend's extras totalling 56 which was the main difference between the sides, resulting in a Port Talbot win by 26 runs (pairs format).

E.Biebrach (13) and O Lewis (6) were the main

contributors to the Bridgend total followed by G Davies (4), H Evans (4), C Hart (4), and E Rees (4).

Bridgend's wickets were taken by C Hart (1), O Johns (1) and E Rees (1).

Special mention for E Rees who bowled three maiden overs with great accuracy and E Biebrach for some excellent batting.

Team: E.Biebrach, G Davies, H.Evans, C.Hart, J.Hayes, M Hobby, O.Johns, H.Jones, O.Lewis, E.Rees.

JH

Pencoed win league final

PENCOED school rugby league team were victorious over St Joseph's school of Newport in one of three Champions Schools Welsh Finals, held recently, one of which was a national semi-final.

Pencoed were made to work for their win in the first game of the day – the year-8 Welsh final – against a spirited St Joseph's side.

They took the lead in the second minute after Josh Raikes caught an excellent cross-field kick. Brendon Thrasher converted well from the touchline.

Raikes quickly ran through for the second try three minutes later with Thrasher converting to make the score 12-0.

St Joseph's hit back on 20 minutes when Christian Mbongopasi sprinted his way through the defence and Liam Derrick converted to make the half-time score 12-6.

Pencoed struck first after the interval, extending their lead to 18-6 after Daniel Jakeway dived under the posts and Thrasher converted.

It was 24-6 when man of the match Liam Walters twisted his way over an outstanding fourth. Thrasher kept up his 100 per cent kicking record.

But St Joseph's weren't giving in and struck back through an excellent run from Derrick. The conversion was missed.

They scored again from kick-off when Joel

Curtis ran over, but it went unconverted and St Joseph's were still 10 points behind.

But Pencoed sealed the game as Callum Palmer scored from close range in the final minutes. The kick fell just short.

And they still had time to go over again through Matthew Wilcott to make the final score 32-14.

In the Welsh year-10 final, which also served as a national semi-final, Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Ystalyfera became the first ever Welsh-speaking side to reach a National Rugby League Final after beating fellow Welsh-speaking school Ysgol Gyfun Cwm Rhymni 42-18 in the semi-final of the year-10 Champions Schools competition at The Gnoll in Neath.

The year-7 Welsh final between the same two schools had the same outcome, a win for Ystalyfera – 28-14.

Ian Golden

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Police to run youth team

SOUTH Wales Police RFC have confirmed they will be running a youth team next season.

Having set up an under16s, the Police will now put out a youth team with further details to follow shortly, including training days and dates along with confirmation of their tour destination and dates

If you are looking for a new challenge or just looking to get back into rugby contact 07737 318 942.

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